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The National Library – **providing new services** for the information society



Re-thinking metadata: resource description in portals and digital object management systems



The national memory is endangered

Helsinki University Library Bulletin 2005

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Managing change – The Finnish vision

This year we all gathered at the IFLA conference in Oslo to share our experiences and knowledge. In Finland we are always happy to host international visitors interested in learning about the Finnish library system and experiencing our scenic landscapes. There were two satellite meetings *Bibliotheca Universalis – How to Organize Chaos* and *The Physical Library and Beyond – Library as Place and the Library in Cyberspace*, both of which provided excellent insight related to the issues affecting us.

Libraries will never be the same; they find themselves caught up in the turbulent environment of an information market constantly searching for new and more efficient ways to manage its business. Everything from copyrights, standards and Google technology to the price of portal development seems to have a dramatic impact on everything we plan and implement.

The Finnish National Library has chosen an active way to manage this change. We are the first non-US member of NISO attempting to provide a more European perspective to our common standards. On the technical side we prefer to speak of the value chain of digital content (the digitizing and purchasing of more than 20,000 electronic magazines), delivery (the “Triangle”), archiving and long-term preservation. Additional information about these issues is found in the following articles.

As the Director General I see this as a three-tiered cake: technology – service – policy. They all have to fit to make a workable combination.

The Helsinki University library has been one of the few European national libraries playing the dual role of national library and university library. Now this role is shifting towards the concept of a more independent service unit. We will officially be known as the *Finnish National Library* while remaining as a special institute for the University of Helsinki. The most substantial changes will affect our service policy; we will be expanding the scope of our services from university libraries to include the entire library network, adding polytechnic libraries, special libraries and public libraries to our permanent custom and partnership. These issues will be covered in the following articles and we will be happy to provide you with additional information if necessary.



With its historical geographical position between the East and West, the Finnish National Library boasts interesting collections from the Swedish Era and the Russian Era (1809–1917). The materials in some of these collections are extremely rare. For example *A.E. Nordenskiöld*, the founder of the Northeast Passage, was also a renowned map and book collector. We have his invaluable collection that includes 128 incunabula and 49 Ptolemy atlases. Our Slavonic department is a globally respected resource, a real heaven for international researchers who typically come from the USA or even Japan.

Our historical cupola hall, a neoclassic masterpiece designed by *C.L. Engel*, usually leaves every visitor breathless. Now we have organized a once-in-a-lifetime exhibition of the library’s Finnish treasures, simply called *The Treasures*. We hope you enjoy it.

Once again, we are pleased to share our Finnish vision and best practices with you. Please do not hesitate to contact us.

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The National Library

– providing new services for the information society

PHOTO: EERO ROINE.



The services provided by the National Library for the library network and the information society as a whole are being developed in two parallel processes. The role of the National Library will be expanded from being a service center for university libraries only to being a service center for polytechnic libraries, public libraries and special libraries as well. At the same time, the service concept and the digital library services themselves are being developed in cooperation with the library network. The different library sectors have organized the management of each sector to better meet the needs of the changing working environment.

The National Electronic Library FinELib acquires reference, whole-text databases and e-books for universities' and libraries' use, as well as electronic magazines whose number has already exceeded 20,000. The annual FinELib Day at the University of Helsinki's small auditorium 10 May 2005.

The library network – cooperating within and across library sectors

The tradition of cooperation among libraries has been an important factor in the development of library services in Finland; the university libraries in particular have a long history of cooperation. One very concrete expression of this cooperation is the shared library system; all Finnish university libraries have been using the same library system since the 1990s. The first integrated library system was called VTLS, but today all university libraries and polytechnic libraries use the Voyager system.

The development of national services for libraries by the National Library – such as the coordination of the shared library system, the national portal, or national licensing – has increased the need to develop the coordination and management of each library sector. For both the libraries and the National Library it is essential that negotiations concerning national services be organized in a timesaving and practical way to avoid repetitive individual negotiations.

University libraries have been organizing inter-library cooperation in the network for ten years. The Council of University Libraries, formed in 1996, is a cooperative body whose aim is to promote common activities and supervise libraries' interests. The Council monitors developments within the library sector, creates new initiatives, improves cooperation between libraries, as well as among libraries and third parties. The university library network has also produced a joint strategy.

Cooperation within the polytechnic and research institute libraries, as well as the public libraries, has been organized more recently and can be seen as a response to the demands of the changing working environment. The forums coordinating activities within the university, special library and public library sectors are called councils, while the polytechnic libraries have formed the AMKIT consortium. The councils' management groups and the AMKIT consortium act as negotiation partners for the National Library.

There are three different types of library consortiums in Finland. The *Linnea* consortium was formed to handle matters related to the library system at universities and at certain special libraries. The licensing of electronic resources and development and coordination of the national information retrieval portal are handled by the

FinELib consortium. All four library sectors are members of the *FinELib* consortium. These two consortia, *Linnea* and *FinELib*, have been formed to develop certain digital library services. The third consortium, *AMKIT*, has been formed to promote all issues related to the development of polytechnic libraries.

By international standards, the organization of the Finnish library network is exceptional. Each library sector can handle questions related to the entire sector and the councils' management groups are authorized to represent the entire sector in negotiations. There is a growing need for cross-sectoral cooperation and the exchange of expertise between different sectors.

The National Library of Finland's expanding role

The Helsinki University Library, the National Library of Finland, plays a dual role in the library network. It is part of the University of Helsinki and provides services for the university, but it also functions as a service and development center for all Finnish university libraries. As the National Library of Finland, its most important task is to collect and preserve the national published heritage for future generations. Most of its financing, about 80%, comes directly from the Ministry of Education, while the remaining 20% comes from the University.

During the current planning period, 2004–2006, the Library has been charged with the task of taking on a wider range of duties and responsibilities than previously. The role of the National Library in the provision of national information content and the development of the library network will increase significantly as will its overall impact on society as a whole. The clientele of the Library will be expanded to cover polytechnic libraries, public libraries, special libraries and university libraries.

To be able to expand the role of the National Library in the information society, the Universities Act will have to be revised to correspond with the new responsibilities, a budgetary system needs to be developed, a steering system has to be developed to meet the needs of an enlarged clientele, and the services in question have to be defined. Additionally, the name of the organization will be changed to the National Library to reflect its new role. The Ministry of Education is responsible for implementing the change and in 2002 a working group began outlining the

necessary changes. Another working group named by the Ministry of Education will be responsible for implementing the changes by the end of 2005.

Concurrent with the expansion of the National Library's role, another important change is taking place: the development of the digital library services concept.

National services for the library network and their benefits for libraries

According to the Universities Act, the National Library is today a service center for the university libraries. The library also provides national services for the polytechnic and public library sector as well as for special libraries. These services are based on licenses and service agreements and the licenses' periods of validity range from one to three years. In connection with the National Library's expanded role, these services will be established on a permanent basis and certain added-value services will also be developed. The library network has played an active part in defining these national services. Libraries have prioritized the services and the final list of services is based on this work. National services for the library network will be developed in phases. The current plan is to start work on the expansion in 2006 and continue during the next planning period, 2007-2009 (Table 1). How the timetable is implemented in practice will to a large extent depend on government funding.

What are the benefits of the change? The most obvious benefit for the library network is that the services and the related staffing can be made permanent. With permanent staff, high-quality expertise can be developed sustainably. Expertise is a prerequisite for the development of the services in question. The library network will also become an important partner for the National Library in developing and implementing the services. Services can be tailored to meet the needs of each library sector; the four library sectors in question are very different in nature and the needs of the libraries and the customers they represent vary considerably. The library network, together with the National Library, will become a major force when negotiating, for example, with the Ministry of Education over financing new services or resources. It can even be foreseen that the library network, together with the National Library, can grow to be an influential opinion leader in the information society.

Developing the digital library infrastructure

Parallel with the National Library's expanded role is the development of the Finnish digital library system based on three main elements: the library system (Voyager), the information retrieval portal (MetaLib + SFX) and the

SERVICE	DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE
General description of services for which the National Library is responsible: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance • Development • Coordination • Training • Information • Standards 	
DATABASES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National bibliographies • Union catalogues • Portal databases • Thesauri 	2006 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlimited search at libraries • Copy cataloguing at libraries 2007-2009 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Databases freely available to the public • Joint union catalogue for all library sectors
LICENSING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FinELib, The Finnish Electronic Library 	2006 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent staffing for all 4 sectors 2007-2009 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financing of core e-resources for each sector by the Ministry of Education
DIGITAL LIBRARY SOFTWARE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library system software • Portal software • Digital object management software 	2006 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financing of portal software by the Ministry of Education 2007-2009 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financing of digital object management software by the Ministry of Education • Financing of digital library server acquisition by the Ministry of Education
STANDARDS	2006 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The standard basis for digital library services
LIBRARY STATISTICS	2006 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific libraries statistics • Development of impact assessment
ADDED VALUE SERVICES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management • Customer services • Evaluation of impact 	2006 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy, Services, Technology • Customer relationship management • Communication • Impact assessment of all services

Table 1. National services for library network in 2006 and during the period 2007-2009.

digital objects management system, DOMS (Encompass). There are also supporting tools such as *BookWhere*, connected to the library system to support copy cataloguing, or *RefWorks*, connected to the portal to help researchers handle references. In the development of the services, the focus is on the entire system not its sub-entities.

There are many challenges that must be faced when developing the system. From the technical point of view, interoperability issues are very much in focus. The system consists of the above-mentioned three main elements, the software and the supporting tools. More elements will probably be added in the future, but all these parts must function together. The core customers or users of the system vary. The main idea of a library system is to rationalize work at libraries; in this respect the customer of the library system is a library. The idea of an information retrieval portal is to give access to heterogeneous information resources and to facilitate the cross searching of multiple databases. The user of the portal is a researcher or student, or any person searching for information. Digital object management systems help organizations handle different types of digital collections and the DOMS customer may be an entire whole organization. Although the system's individual functions and user groups vary, end-users should be able to grasp the system as a complete entity.

Major developmental challenges thus relate to end-user needs and their satisfaction. The user of the digital library may be a researcher, student, teacher or private citizen and users' skill levels may vary considerably. The user can also be situated on-campus or off-campus and preferences will vary according to the tools used to access the content. From the user's point of view, he or she should be able to use only one service to search for and retrieve relevant information or documents.

High-quality content is the heart of the digital library system. The system provides access, for example, to licensed resources, digitized resources, special collections, universities' and other organizations' electronic publications, music collections, open access resources, national catalogues and library catalogues. With increasing frequency users will be able to access full-text resources. When full text is not available, the user will be advised – using

The digital library's infrastructure is the backbone of the value chain the National Library is constructing. The value chain consists of electronic publishing, licensing, digitization, distribution and the long-term preservation of key materials, as well as production chain-related expertise.

TYPE OF RESOURCE	KEY FIGURE
Licensed resources	20,000 e-journals 25,000 e-books 230 databases
The Finnish Historical Newspaper Library 1771-1890	1,000,000 pages
Union catalogue LINDA- Collection information of the Finnish university libraries	4.5 million references
Special collections - the collection of former President Kekkonen	Books and articles by Urho Kaleva Kekkonen

Table 2. Examples of content in digital library

an openURL linking – in which collection the document is available. To give an idea of the size of the collections available to the user, selected figures are shown in the table below (Table 2).

A steering mechanism has been evolved to develop the digital library system and manage its complexity. The steering mechanism consists of a steering committee and a number of special working groups. There are three working groups concentrating on questions related to hardware, software and services, as well as statistics and impact. All four library sectors are represented in all groups and the members themselves represent high-level expertise in the groups' special areas. The system was launched in spring 2005.

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Conclusions

Organizing the four library sectors to meet the needs of the changing working environment is essential. Because of this organization, cooperation between the libraries and the National Library can be more systematic and efficient than previously. The organization of the networks also forms a basis for cross-sectoral cooperation and exchange of expertise between different sectors.

The work undertaken to expand the role of the National Library is an example of the cooperation between the various stakeholders. Key players in the process have been the Ministry of Education, the University of Helsinki, the National Library of Finland and the library network represented by the management groups

of the councils or consortia. It has been a valuable process from which the National Library and the library network have learnt a great deal. The expansion is planned to take place in 2006. Many challenges will have to be overcome before the library network and the National Library together can be regarded as a major force in the development of content services for the information society. Active cooperation between different types of libraries, other stakeholders and the National Library, combined with working methods based on transparency and trust, will guarantee future success.

The new vision statement encapsulating the National Library Strategy reflects the new challenges "The National Library – a library for the entire nation".

The new role of the National Library in a nutshell:

- Specific national services will be made permanent for the entire library network.
- The expertise for providing these services will be guaranteed.
- The libraries will be partners in developing and steering the services.
- The influence of the library network and the National Library in the information society will increase.

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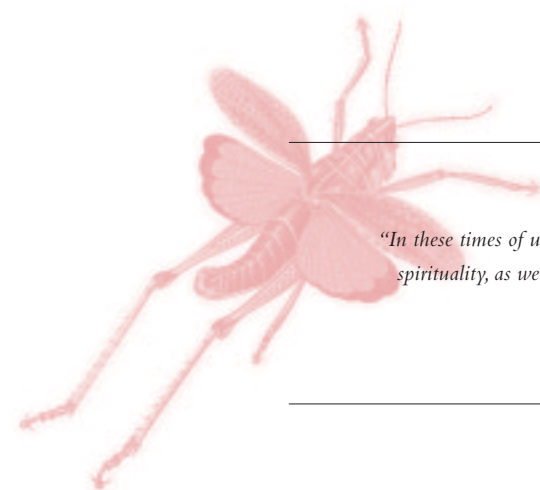
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Said about the National Library:

"In these times of unbridled materialism, a place where one can still find wisdom and spirituality, as well as a respite from the relentless pursuit of one's own objectives, is more valuable than gold."

Ruth Kaila



Re-thinking metadata: resource description in portals and digital object management systems

Introduction

Following the official opening in April 2005 of the Urho Kekkonen collection, containing 4,680 works of the former Finnish president and statesman in full text, the main components – integrated library management system (ILMS), metasearch portal and digital object management system (DOMS) – of the Helsinki University Library's new service environment are in production. Consisting of three functional areas, this "triangle" provides a platform upon which Finnish libraries can build new, enhanced and affordable services with a local flavor.

The three main applications – *Voyager*, *MetaLib*, *EN-Compass* – as well as supporting tools such as *Book-*

Where and *Usemarcon* are already being used in many Finnish libraries; an extreme case is the *Nelli* (National Electronic Library Interface) portal that has been purchased by every university, polytechnic and public library in the country.

Being able to use all these applications efficiently is a major management challenge faced by libraries. The Helsinki University Library can furnish the technical platform and a range of technical services, but the libraries themselves are responsible for providing most of the actual information content. This work often requires considerable personnel resources whose availability is essential.



Lost with the tools?

Libraries clearly know how to use a traditional ILMS. The relevant standards are familiar to us and we know what kind of metadata the system needs to function properly (which does not mean that we can always provide this information).

It is probably only natural that when it comes to portals and DOMS we lack the detailed understanding we have on ILMS. These systems have been implemented for only a few years at the most, and those in use today cannot be considered mature compared to ILMS products that have been in use for two decades. Probably the greatest obstacle to the further development of portals and DOMS is vendors' inadequate knowledge of libraries' and other potential users' needs. This is understandable because even we lack this knowledge. No one has a complete vision – or a universally accepted 100-page RFP – for these tools, and local needs may vary considerably.

From this basic problem we can derive many other problems, more or less indirectly. For instance, portal developers may think that the most serious technical problem they face is the handling of result sets. Admittedly, attempting to make a result set look good when it contains different records from diverse sources is a daunting task. From the standpoint of libraries and customers however, the most difficult problem is query semantics, or obtaining the right answers from target databases. Even if the records' layout is perfect in the portal user interface, this achievement is useless if the records are irrelevant.

Conversely, a portal developer may think that the metadata in the portal is crucial to the success of the application, and that this metadata is therefore a strategic asset for the company developing the product. As a librarian, I would agree with the first point, but strongly disagree with the second one. Metadata in portals and DOMS, like metadata in ILMS, is a strategic asset for the libraries using these applications, and libraries must be able to share this information between themselves and other organizations using these tools.

In this article, we will briefly examine portal metadata and the emerging standards that will facilitate the exchange of metadata among portals. One reason for making this choice was a metadata-related lecture I delivered to a group of Finnish librarians in April 2005. When asked what type of metadata a portal might require to operate efficiently, the librarians' responses were extremely diverse. Personally I found this interesting yet slightly surprising because it clearly revealed that the concept of portal metadata is not understood universally, at least in Finland, even though we already have *MetaLib* in production.

Service descriptions

From the functional point of view, a portal is an extension of a traditional OPAC. At least one international library system vendor – VTLS – has not built a separate portal, but has incorporated this functionality into the Virtua OPAC. There are many reasons, ranging from commercial to technical, why other ILMS vendors may be reluctant to follow this example.

Because portals have been derived from OPACs, they must contain descriptions of services such as databases. The problem is that this kind of OPAC metadata has never been standardized, or to be more exact, the attempts to do so never gained much popularity. The Z39.50 Explain service, added to Version 3 of the standard in 1995, has been implemented by only a handful of library system vendors. The Z39.50 community reacted to this by designing simplified versions of Explain, first in the ONE-2 project during the late 1990s (Explain Lite) and subsequently in the ZiNG initiative (ZeeRex).

The NISO Metasearch Initiative (<http://www.niso.org/committees/MetaSearch-info.html>) Task Group 2, currently developing standards for portal metadata, chose ZeeRex as the starting point for developing a metadata element set for service descriptions. As the latest incarnation of Z39.50 Explain, it is based on a decade of experiments and implementer experience. There was no other alternative, except to start from scratch, an approach the group rejected because there was no reason to assume that we could improve on previous attempts.

ZeeRex (<http://explain.z3950.org/>) is a simple-looking format with only a few elements: serverInfo, databaseInfo, indexInfo, recordInfo and metaInfo that contains information about the ZeeRex record itself. Because there are no ZeeRex cataloguing rules, it is possible to create simple service descriptions such as:

```
<explain>
<serverInfo>
  <host>helka.linneanet.fi</host>
  <port>210</port>
  <database>Helka</database>
</serverInfo>
</explain>
```

or complex metadata records, describing in minute detail how a database can be searched. Naturally the more complete a record is, the more useful it is for searching purposes.

Unfortunately the creation of exhaustive service descriptions is a challenging and time-consuming task. In the worst case scenario a remote database will fail to support well-known search and retrieval protocols such as Z39.50 or SRU/SRW. Lacking knowledge of the search protocol and access to the database search APIs, a portal

developer is forced to resort to a method called screen scraping, encrypting in minute detail the responses given by the portal during a search session. Changing any detail in the native user interface may render the portal inoperable, and finding and fixing the problem may be difficult. Consequently, although proprietary user interfaces may be a good idea from the branding point of view, they are a major obstacle and burden for portal developers and users.

Even if a remote database supports Z39.50, providing its ZeeRex description may prove awkward. This is particularly true for *indexInfo*, where all search criteria must be encrypted. A typical OPAC includes dozens of query terms (such as author, title, subject) that can be combined with Boolean operators, truncated from right and/or left, and so forth. Describing all this by generating all the necessary queries manually may take a week or more. If this cumbersome work is not performed, a portal will have incomplete and possibly even erroneous information about the target database, and will consequently be unable to provide efficient access to the system. When this occurs, users would be probably better off using the native interface, and may see the portal as a nuisance, an intrusive barrier blocking their access to relevant resources.

Many service descriptions' technical details can be generated programmatically. Once we know the location of a Z39.50 server, we can search it with a "robot" that sends out every query known by Z39.50. Based on the server response, accurate *indexInfo* can be built. However, this information, as well as everything else in service descriptions, is created and maintained manually in present portal applications. Because there is no exchange format to facilitate the exchange of this metadata between portals (or between portals and the ILMs), the maintenance of service descriptions is much more laborious than it should be.

Once the NISO Metasearch Initiative has completed its job and it is possible to exchange service descriptions between libraries, we will be able to collectively maintain a much larger and more up-to-date set of service descriptions for our customers' benefit.

Collection descriptions

When portals can access thousands of databases instead of hundreds, a new kind of problem arises. The simple topic-based categorization of target systems no longer works; more detailed information about the targets' contents must

Although collection description is time-consuming, librarians' collective efforts will eventually provide us with an accurate map of the deep Web's information landscape, something both we librarians and our patrons will need to be able to navigate the sea of information.

PHOTO: EERO ROINE



Dancer Reijo Kela at the opening of the Nelli information retrieval portal. Professor of Folk Music Heikki Laitinen and accordionist Kimmo Pohjonen also participated in the Kalevala group's performance.

be provided to enable customers to select the best databases.

Creating collection descriptions is nothing new for libraries. Particularly in the U.S.A. and United Kingdom there have been systematic and coordinated efforts to increase an awareness of the best collections. Before the Internet and metasearch portals the provision of collection level metadata was not urgent because our customers were not able to access thousands of databases. Now that they are able to do this, we must help them find the needles in the Internet haystack.

The NISO Metasearch Initiative TG2 works with collection descriptions in parallel with service descriptions. The group decided to use the Dublin Core Collection Description Application Profile (<http://dublincore.org/groups/collections/>) as the starting point, but it has been expanded upon in two ways. Firstly, the group developed a data model that binds service and collection descriptions. This requires linking fields (isAvailableAt, makesAvailable) with which the users can see, for example, the services through which a given collection is available, or the collections that are available through a given service. Secondly, based on implementer experience, certain new metadata features have been added, including Completeness.

This particular element vividly illustrates the complexity of making collection descriptions. Firstly, providing completeness information for many collections is unfeasible. Secondly, if the information is given in unencrypted form (such as free text) its utilization for resource discovery is limited. A user searching for the world's largest collections on high-energy physics will encounter problems unless there is a uniformly applied quantitative system for providing completeness information. Because Conspectus is the only system of this kind, the NISO group will recommend it.

Libraries providing service descriptions will face many challenges even after the standardization work has been completed. Because any aggregation of items constitutes a collection, the first task is to define the collections. A large-scale academic or public library may have hundreds of collections, and describing them all requires a considerable amount of work because the task has to be performed manually by collection experts who are in short supply.

Defining the target group is the second thorny issue impacting on the choice of collections and collection description practices. In Finland for example, if collection descriptions are provided only in Finnish, only a few foreigners will be able to use them. If relevant elements are

made multilingual – for example in Finnish, Swedish and English – the applicability of the resulting metadata record will be more wide-ranging in scope.

Because collection and service descriptions may eventually be exchanged on a global scale, libraries everywhere – including the U.S.A. and United Kingdom – should provide metadata in multiple languages. Compared with the initial effort of selecting the collections and providing the metadata in a single language, making the translations would be relatively easy. It is essential that libraries describing their collections in a local, regional or perhaps even national context think beyond these limits, and create information that the international library community can use.

Summary

What makes portal metadata – collection and service descriptions – really interesting is that search engines like Google cannot access the deep Web databases efficiently. It is possible to extract the contents of a bibliographic database into a flat file and then transmit the file to the Google indexing tool, but dealing with manifestations provides no indications of the collections within the database. Although collection description is time-consuming, librarians' collective efforts will eventually provide us with an accurate map of the deep Web's information landscape, something both we librarians and our patrons will need to be able to navigate the sea of information.

Generally portals and DOMS broaden the scope of library services in ways we could not have foreseen a decade ago. But this does not come without a price: maintaining a quality portal or DOMS will be laborious, and a poorly-managed system will be actually counterproductive. Because it is unlikely that libraries will be able to hire many new personnel, the management must compare existing routines with new tasks and set priorities. These decisions are never easy, but the least appropriate thing to do at this point would be to ignore new technologies or use the new tools inefficiently. One key to success is to understand that, thanks to old traditions and new technologies, libraries are now more closely connected than ever before, and are able to cooperate in new ways that benefit us and our users.

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The national memory is endangered

At the change of century Finland had a noteworthy chance to become one of the first countries to publicize and diversely utilize their national library, archives and museum collections through various communications media. The national and international field beckoned. We had a highly developed technical infrastructure, mobile telephone industry and a favorable public attitude towards technology.

Akseli Gallen-Kallela's painting "The Defense of the Sampo" based on the Kalevala. As a result of the struggle *"the Sampo breaks in pieces, scatters through the Alue-waters"*. An excellent metaphor for the unique documents, books, magazines, manuscripts – our common cultural heritage that only conservation, microfilming and digitization can save – that are literally falling apart in our hands. More resources should be budgeted for this purpose.

The Ministry of Education's KULDI working group, established during the second term of Prime Minister *Paavo Lipponen's* government and charged with the digitizing of the nation's cultural heritage, submitted its final report concerning the digitizing policies of the Finnish memory sector – libraries, archives and museums – in 2003. The final report's objective was that the memory organizations would receive EUR 5 million annually over a 5-year period, after which time the country's essential non-copyrighted materials would have been digitized. The memory organizations' data management and digitizing centers would have been responsible for coordination; the selection of the materials would have been made according to the organizations' priorities.

The legacy of a national identity – its cultural heritage – did not appear to be sufficiently valuable from the political standpoint in Finland. Its potential utilization in the building of the Information Society was not grasped. Perhaps it was a question of the "Gutenberg Syndrome". When Gutenberg unveiled his printing press, the initial public reaction was to wonder how this invention for printing bibles could be used in other ways. In other words, there is always a time lag before an invention's possibilities are understood and new products and distribution channels are created for user groups.

The practical value of the cultural heritage-related content production as a basic element in education, research, hobbies or tourism was not seen; we accordingly missed an opportunity. Investments in digitization however support the objectives of the Government's Information Society program in all its sub-areas: by increasing national competitiveness and productivity, social and regional equality, as well as citizens' well-being and quality of life. National digitized materials would also support the Ministry of Education's Virtual School project and the expansion of E-learning. The need for domestic materials has become apparent in, for example, the Ministry of the Interior's survey of basic services that was conducted in public libraries in the autumn of 2004.

Division of labor among European libraries, archives and museums

The forms of cooperation taking place among memory organizations are becoming increasingly structured and legalized within the European Union and outside its borders. For example an interim administrative agency for archive, library and museum ministries and organizations has been established in Norway. The agency's main primary task is to activate the memory sector's role in the Information Society, together and separately. Half of the agency's 60 employees work in the main development and planning departments.

Finland will have the opportunity to participate in numerous digital sector-related EU projects and obtain EU funding only if domestic resources are sufficient.

Domestic digitizing cooperation intensified

In the summer of 2003, the decision was made to coordinate memory organizations' digitizing cooperation with the help of the voluntary eKAM (electronic library, archive, museum) partnership group because funding for the implementation of a Finnish digitizing policy was not forthcoming. The Ministry of Education's officials, the organizations' director generals, KULDI's former members, as well as the organizations' representatives have intensively participated in the development of eKAM. The Helsinki University Library's Microfilming and Conservation Centre is coordinating the digitizing cooperation.

Besides the partnership group, eKAM has been divided into working groups whose purpose is to advance the memory organization's common digitization-related interests. The member organization's participation in the working committees will depend on their interests and needs.

In June 2004 the Benchmarking working group obtained project funding from the Ministry of Education; its purpose was the creation of a database meant for digital project management and the search for comparative partners. The database was completed in 2005. The ultimate objective is to register all the memory organizations' digitization-related plans and projects in a common database. It is also hoped, for example, that the Ministry of Education would use this database as a tool when allocating funding for digitization projects. The Helsinki University Library's Microfilming and Conservation Centre is leading a benchmarking group whose work utilizes the results of the EU-funded Minerva Project. The Microfilming and Conservation Centre was also responsible for an equivalent working group in the Minerva Project.

One example of eKAM's operations was the 2-day *Verkko auki?* ("Open Network?") seminar, organized in November 2004, in which over 200 digitizing professionals gathered to discuss the future of the field.

The future requires investments

With respect to national materials, the National Archives of Finland's Director General *Jussi Nuorteva* has pointed out the need for a division of responsibilities and a higher degree of officialization. No sector alone has the resources to convincingly advance the activities related to the overall digitizing sector. Tasks must be distributed and there must be cooperation. The Helsinki University Library already has a digitizing center, and the National Archives

Working within the framework of available resources, the technicians at the Helsinki University Library's Microfilming and Conversation Centre are doing everything they can to preserve the readability of our printed cultural traditions. Shown digitizing is Satu Hämäläinen.



has concentrated on long-term preservation. If we want to participate in international activities, we must also be able to coordinate the projects in Europe that are important to us. To do this requires sufficient focus and more abundant resources.

A memo prepared by the Ministry of Education's *Science and Society* working group in 2004 has drawn attention to the role of the memory organizations as institutions capable of generating information services. Their operations will have a decisive effect on the decision-makers' as well as ordinary citizens' views of the world and ways of thinking. The working group advocates greater support than is presently the case for the memory organizations' digitizing activities as a part of the content production focusing on the Information Society's cultural dimension. At the same time there should be sufficient resources provided for the digitization of essential materials, as well as the development of common usage mechanisms and constructive cooperation among memory organizations.

The proposals mark the beginning of the "Gutenberg's invention" phase. A firm governmental commitment, sufficient funding and research are however required before new technologies and the full potential of national digitized materials can be widely utilized in Finland. In any case it has already been demonstrated that memory organizations have the will to cooperate successfully and produce results.

The Helsinki University Library's conservation services are located at the library's Microfilming and Conservation Centre in Pursiala, Mikkeli. The institute's main

task is the microfilming, digitizing and conservation of library materials. It also coordinates such activities as domestic memory organizations' digitizing work and participates in international projects.

Majlis Bremer-Laamanen
Production Manager
Helsinki University Library
Mikkeli University Centre

eKAM's targets:

1. Promote libraries', archives' and museums' digitizing cooperation according to KULDI's strategy.
2. Safeguard the development of the digitizing of the Finnish cultural heritage despite the lack of funding.
3. Efficient resource utilization, division of work tasks and organizational structures.

eKAM's threats and opportunities

Threats

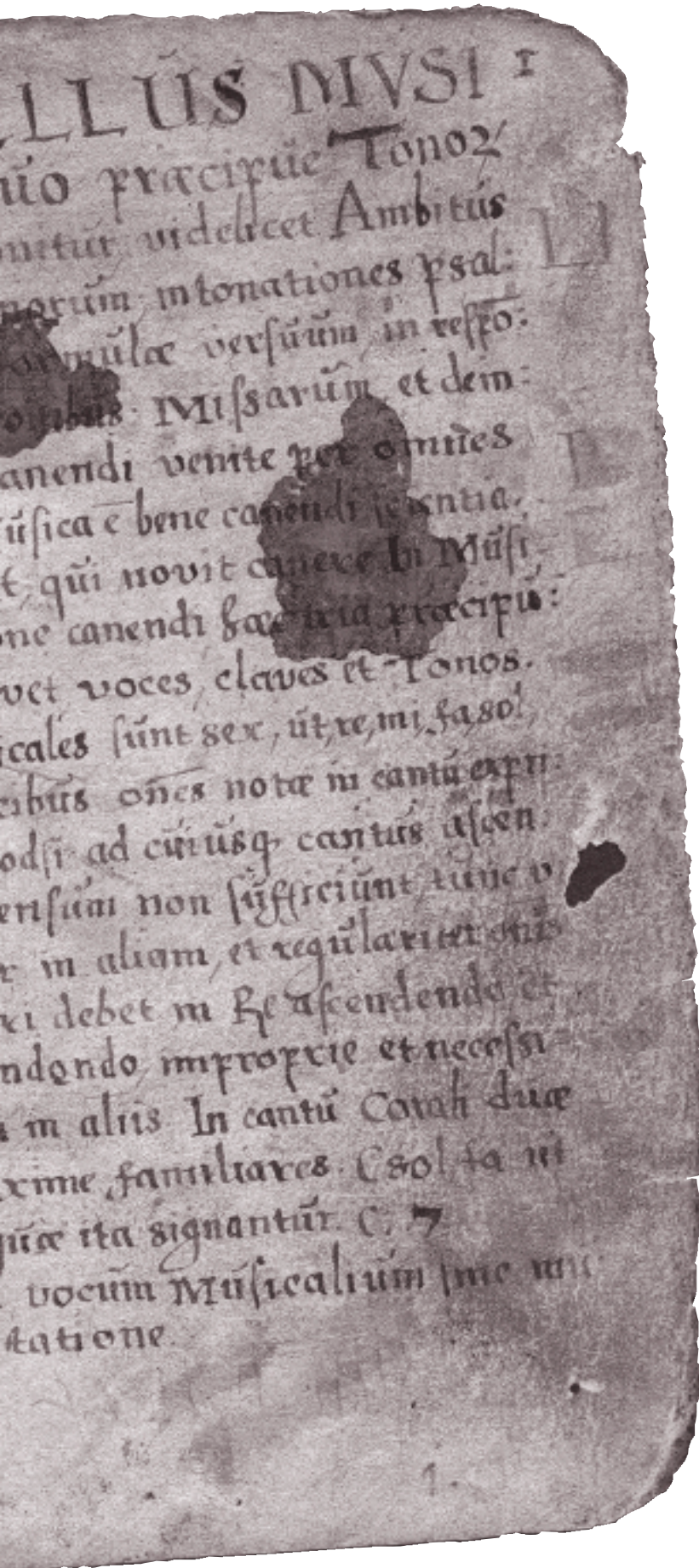
1. The absence of an official position affects goals, staff motivation and questions of responsibility.
2. Lack of funding.

Opportunities

1. Trust, pioneer spirit and commitment.
2. Support from memory organizations' director generals.
3. The Ministry of Education's positive attitude.
4. Clear strategic policies and the possibility to seize opportunities.

Conserving the cultural heritage as a mission

National libraries are the gatherers and preservers of the intellectual cultural heritage, the final repositories of documented information. In principle, libraries are obligated to preserve the materials they have assembled forever. Compliance with this obligation is difficult however, because printed literature becomes brittle with use, and industrially produced acidic papers themselves decompose over time. Even if physical publications cannot be preserved indefinitely, at the least their content can be preserved for future generations.



Libellus musicus. Codex Michael Michaelis. Hymnarium. S.a.
Detail. The Naantali curate Michael Michaelis's manuscript
dates from the late 1500s.

A recent condition survey revealed that major portions of the National Library's collections, approximately 100,000 publications, are so damaged that they require emergency conservation measures. Additionally, the materials will have to be withdrawn from circulation. Even if a great deal of budget allocations were to be spent for the preservation work, that in itself would not be enough; what is needed is active citizen involvement as well as an alliance between public and private sectors whose purpose is to rescue the cultural heritage. The cultural heritage is after all common national property and hence everyone shares the responsibility for its preservation. Conservation, digitizing and microfilming are technical measures that can be used to extend the life of a publication.

In the spring of 2004, the University of Helsinki established the National Library Cultural Heritage Fund as part of its traditional donation funds. The University's funds have been created and grown gradually since the mid-1750s to the point where they now number more than 250. The purpose of the new fund is to support and publicly promote the preservation of the cultural heritage. Participating contributors can be private individuals, associations, or companies. Donors can create a named endowment fund, bequeath portions of their estates, or "adopt a book" and help underwrite the cost of its conservation and digitization. For corporate donors, a contribution towards preserving the cultural heritage is tax-deductible without any upper limit.

Adopt a Book

The *Adopt a Book* campaign is the National Library's newest means of supporting its cultural heritage-related preservation works. The campaign invites all friends of litera-

ture to take part. Participation is an easy way to make a difference quickly and visibly. Donors themselves can decide the works their contributions will be used to preserve. The campaign has selected valuable works, heavily used and in poor condition, whose age can be significantly extended through skillfully implemented conservation techniques and whose digitization will make them accessible to all through the Internet. Included are antique domestic and foreign books, maps, periodicals and manuscripts that are in the public domain.

Among the items to be saved are the earliest works, dating from the mid-1500s, of *Mikael Agricola*, considered the Father of the Finnish Language and the oldest copy of the New Testament translated into Finnish from the year 1642. Also included are the works of Zacharias Topelius, one of the architects of the modern Finnish identity, illustrated books by his contemporaries, as well as propaganda leaflets from the Second World War. Foreign literary rarities are represented by, for example the Ptolemaic atlases belonging to scientific explorer *A. E. Nordenskiöld's* valuable cartographic collection.

A book story that captivates the imagination

Other European national libraries have already implemented similar *Adopt a Book* programs, including the British Library, the Royal Library of Denmark and the Austrian National Library. Our own campaign focuses on digitization, while the other programs emphasize conservation. Other objectives of our campaign are to increase the public's awareness of the national imprint and foster an appreciation of early literature.

The *Adopt a Book* campaign functions entirely online, where the necessary information about choosing sponsored items and making a donation can be found.

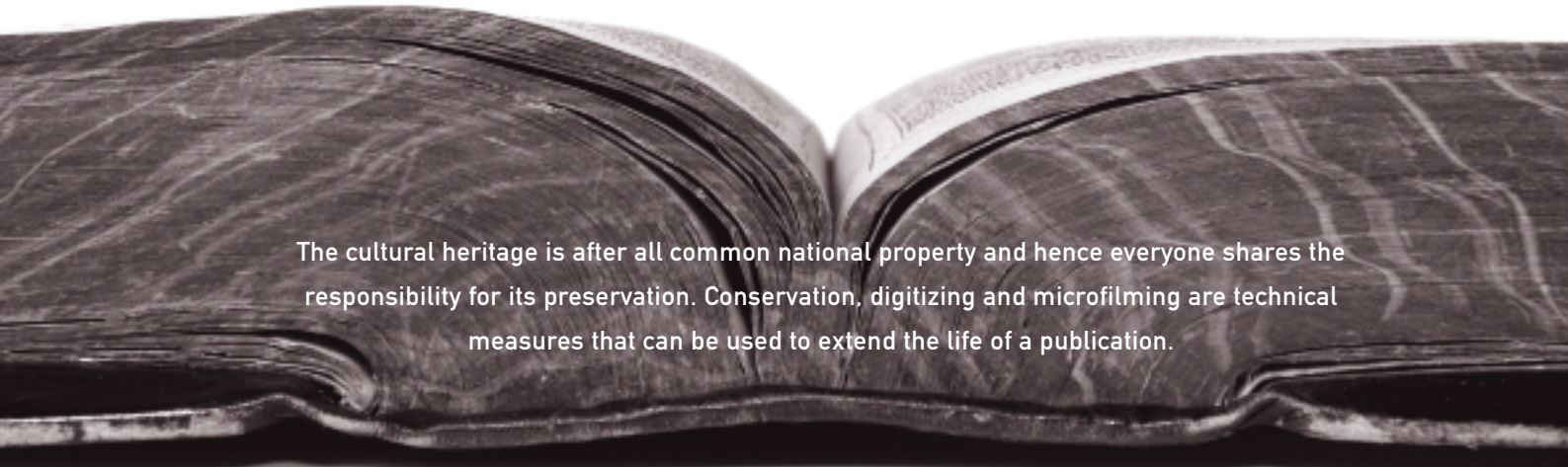


Biblia 1642.

Each item is presented with a visual and written narrative and the program is user-friendly. Every donor participating in the campaign will receive a precise description of the item he or she is sponsoring as well as a report explaining the preservation measures undertaken. The donors' names will be published on the Library's website and information about the donors will be listed in connection with the digitized items for decades.

The story of valuable books and their rescue has captivated the public imagination; the campaign has attract-

ed considerable attention in the media – from TV and radio news to cultural programs – and numerous magazines have published articles on the subject. The library has received a substantial number of queries and contacts from the public, and the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Several donations have also been made. When planning the campaign companies were considered the key target group, but in practice private individuals have participated more actively. Initially the campaign will last one year, but its continuation is planned.



The cultural heritage is after all common national property and hence everyone shares the responsibility for its preservation. Conservation, digitizing and microfilming are technical measures that can be used to extend the life of a publication.

Supported by emperors and citizens alike

The Helsinki University Library is grateful to all its supporters and donors. During the Library's long history gifts of literature have expanded and enriched its collections, while financial donations have made dreams come true. Rulers in certain historical periods have also been among the Library's benefactors.

The Swedish-Finnish Queen Christina was the first supporter already during the 1640s. Parts of the Russian Emperor Paul I's magnificent palace libraries have been obtained as donations from his grandson. The Emperor Nicholas I's gift was an extensive collection of European doctoral dissertations. Nicholas II for his part authorized the Imperial Senate to earmark state funds for the selling off of A. E. Norden-skiöld's valuable geography and cartography collection to Finland. Our present President Tarja Halonen has also donated valuable works acquired in connection with state visits.

The Library's earliest donated collections dating from the period of Swedish rule were destroyed in the Great Fire of Turku – then the capital city – in 1827. Of these collections two of the most significant were General Torsten Stålhandske's collection of theological and humanistic literature obtained as the spoils of war from Denmark during the 1640s, as well as the valuable collection assembled by Bishop C. F. Mennander during the mid-1700s. Mennander functioned as the Bishop of Turku and subsequently as the Archbishop of Sweden in Uppsala.

The losses sustained in the Turku fire aroused sympathy throughout Europe and monetary assistance for reconstruction work was received through book donations and fundrais-

ing drives. Matti Pohto, a Finnish man of the people, made it his life's work to collect Finnish-language literature and willed a substantial portion of his own collection to compensate for the collections destroyed in the fire.

During the period of Finnish Independence the Library has received numerous donations from private individuals and associations. Foreign literature has also been obtained from many nations, including Holland, Great Britain, Japan, the USSR, Switzerland, Denmark and the United States of America.

Among the most significant financial donations was the sum of FIM 5 million that the Library received from the Kansallis-Osake-Pankki (a Finnish bank) in the 1990s. This donation facilitated the implementation of an electronic directory of the Finnish National Bibliography as well as free public access from the Internet during the 1990s.

In our own time important donations have included the world-famous composer Jean Sibelius' scores and correspondence, as well as Academician and philosopher G. H. von Wright's private library and correspondence. The historical library donated last year by the book publisher and Professor Heikki Reenpää carries on the bibliophilic tradition with distinction while helping to remedy deficiencies in domestic collections and the losses incurred in the Turku fire.

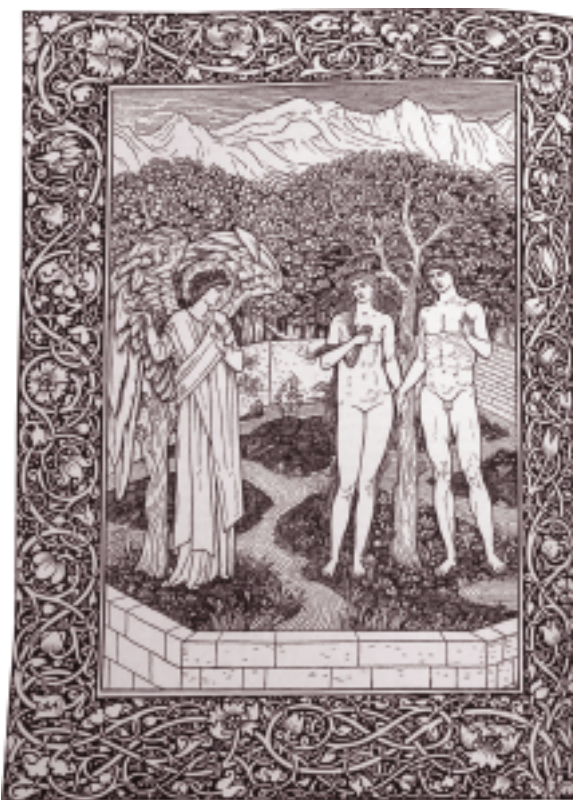
Project Manager Inkeri Salonharju
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Treasures

in the National Library

The more classic treasures have been gold and silver artifacts, money, jewelry and diamonds ...

Whispered accounts of buried art treasures dug up in wartime, secret closets in the halls of old manor houses, kings' burial chambers, sunken sea wrecks ... Buried caches and treasure maps give flight to the imagination. But there are also other treasures ... book treasures, compared to which even the brightest of precious metals dim and whose cultural heritage value is unmeasurable.



One of the best-known works of medieval Christian literature is the *Legenda aurea* (The Golden Legend) written by the Dominican friar and bishop Jacobus de Voragine of Genoa (1230–1298). Edward Burne-Jones designed the elegant illustrations for the edition published by William Morris in 1892.

In connection with excavation works carried out in October 2004 near the vestry of the medieval Ulvila Church in western Finland, an authentic treasure trove was uncovered. Inside a tin canister was a leather pouch filled with silver coins. The event had all the attributes of a classic treasure find. The coins themselves no longer have any purchasing power, nor is the price of silver particularly high at the moment, but the treasure would have been highly significant for collectors. Luckily it is now in the hands of the National Board of Antiquities' skilled researchers.

A hymnal find comparable to the silver treasure was made at a Swedish manor, and this 5x8-cm-sized *Yxi wäihä suomenkielinen wirsikirja* has now been acquired for the National Library's collections. Hymnal researcher Suvi-Päivi Koski has confirmed its authenticity as a genuine book treasure. There had been no previous knowledge of its existence, and the press conference where the announcement of the find was made attracted considerable media attention and extensive newspaper coverage. This book, almost small enough to fit in the palm of one's hand, had probably not been in parish use, and it had been printed in a very limited quantity, hence its rarity. The hymnal is displayed in the National Library's *Treasures* exhibition.

The same kind of work considered a treasure because of its rarity is *Manuale Aboense*, a liturgical manual

printed in Halberstadt for the Cathedral Congregation of Turku in 1522. It was only during the 1840s that its parchment pages were found, and they were used to reconstruct two complete manuals, one of which is in Sweden, the other in Finland. The third known edition of the manual, printed on paper, belongs to the Parish of Lohja and is deposited at the National Library. The Reformation however made the manual obsolete as soon as it was printed owing to significant changes in the way church services were conducted. What makes the book a treasure however is its rarity as well as the fact that it is an example of the first of its kind.

The concept of treasure is intrinsically philosophical: a colorful piece of glass gleaming in the sun can be a childhood treasure, as well as beloved storybook that still awakens memories in old age. Children's storybooks also belong to the National Library's *Brummeriana* collection, from which selected examples are displayed in the *Treasures* exhibition.

World Heritage

For its World Heritage List, UNESCO has identified and approved Finnish locations such as The Fortress of Suomenlinna, Old Rauma and the Verla Groundwood and Board Mill. These are cultural treasures in the same sense of the word as the Giza pyramids in Egypt or the Eiffel Tower in Paris. UNESCO's *Memory of the World Register* lists only one Finnish *library treasure*: the internationally unique collection of printed cartographic atlases and geographical literature assembled by the mineralogist and scientific explorer Adolf Erik Nordenskiöld. The collection of Ptolemaic Atlases alone contains 49 items. The collection is a genuine treasure trove and the National Library's exhibition treats visitors to the sight of the Ptolemaic *Cosmographia* printed in 1477 in Bologna, as well as the *Geographia* printed in 1584, for which the well-known cartographer Gerardus Mercator has made artistic copper engravings.

The collection's maps are often colorful and replete with fascinating details. Over the centuries, the maps have left a visible record of their makers' view of the world, its countries, seas, commercial centers, trade routes, as well as language and cultural areas.

The maps are silent, but they can be used to conjure up the sounds of ancient history: the shouts of camel drivers along the Silk Road, or a captain's commands as a heavily-laden freighter from East India fights the swell of

high waves as it heads towards Europe, the steersman standing on a rickety platform, again attempting to measure the sun's elevation with his sextant to gauge the latitude and avoid the reefs lurking near the shore.

Besides the A. E. Nordenskiöld collection the National Library's treasures include the 9,000-volume library from the *Monrepos* Estate in Viipuri that was for the most part assembled in the late 1700s. Most of the estate library's collections were deposited with the Helsinki University Library during the First World War in 1916. Displayed in the *Treasures* exhibition is an impressive example from the Monrepos collection, Giambattista Piranesi's famous folio depicting Roman ruins, the *Opere varie di architettura, prospettiva, groteschi, antichità*, printed in 1750.

Assault at the Aristodemos spa, 192 BC

Most commonly, the glamour associated with literary treasures is often the result of the aura projected by the printed product's age and fragmentary qualities, even if the document itself is so modest in its appearance that only an expert's pulse rate would quicken. An example of one of these displayed in the exhibition is the Library's oldest papyrus manuscript, a complaint of an assault written in 192 BC. According to research undertaken by Professor Jaakko Frösén, *Dionysos*, a tax auditor for the Greek grain harvest, had been bathing at the Aristodemos spa in Egypt. A soldier named *Philos* had demanded that he act as his bath attendant, but Dionysos refused. In the ensuing scuffle,

in which other soldiers took part, Dionysos was assaulted and handed over to the police, who appear to have sided with the soldiers because Dionysos was imprisoned. The Millenia do not seem to have changed people.

Another example of the exhibition's ancient cultural artifacts is a fragment from the Buddhist aphorism collection *Subhāshitaratnanidhi* ("A Cache

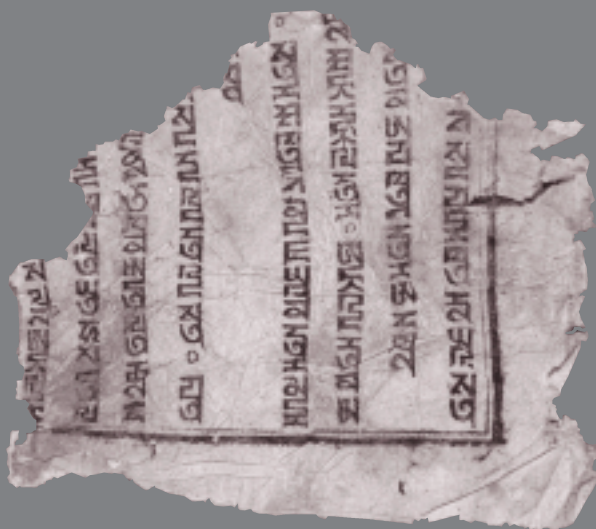
of Wise Sayings") dating from the 1300s, that is at the same time the National Library's oldest wood engraving or xylograph. Analogically, it can be pointed out that *Daniel Medelplan's* famous spelling primer, printed with wooden type in Pälkäne during the Period of Great Hate (1713–1721), was a xylograph. The other last known remaining copy was destroyed in the Turku fire of September 1827.

The exhibition's curiosities and treasures also include the Chinese-language Buddhist *Suutra*, brought back with other fragment materials by C. G. E. Mannerheim, then a colonel in the Russian army and later the Marshall of Finland, from a reconnaissance trip to Northern China

**The maps are silent, but they can be used
to conjure up the sounds of ancient
history: the shouts of camel drivers along
the Silk Road, or a captain's commands
as a heavily-laden freighter from East
India fights the swell of high waves as it
heads towards Europe**

Vincenzo Maria Coronelli:
Globi del Padre Coronelli.
 Venice 1705. Father Vincenzo
 Coronelli, a Franciscan priest,
 theologian, mathematician and
 cosmographer from Venice, is
 regarded as one of the greatest
 globemakers of all time.

PHOTO: TIINA TUUKKANEN



Buddhist Wisdom

Unless wise advice is sought in adversity, evil cannot be uprooted. Unless the drum is rolled with sticks, it cannot be known that it is a drum.

Even if it is your time to die next year, strive towards wisdom. Even if you become no wiser in this life, wisdom is always a precious stone whose value always pays for itself.

If you have talent, all will flock to your side uninvited. A swarm of bees surrounds a fragrant flower even when it blooms in solitude.

The aphorisms are from the Mongolian-language Buddhist aphorism collection *Sayin ügetü erdeni-yin sang*, known in the Sanskrit language by the name *Subhāṣitaratnanidhi* ("A Cache of Wise Sayings"). The fragment brought by C. G. E. Mannerheim from his Asian trip is the National Library's oldest wood engraving (1300s) is a rare piece of evidence proving that the so-called Tibetan-based *Phags-pa* glyph script, developed during the time of Kubla Khan, has also been used in printed works. Only in the Berlin Museum are there similar fragments from the same work. There are no other known *Phags-pa* printings.

Roger Freundlich has rendered the aphorisms in English based on Harry Halén's Finnish translations. Further information about the Mannerheim fragment collection can be found in the Handbook of Oriental Collections in Finland. London 1978. Printed in the Memory. Literary Treasures in the National Library of Finland. Helsinki 2001.

and East Turkestan undertaken during the years 1906–1908. The Finno-Ugrian Society's Mannerheim Fragment Collection deposited with the National Library is, according to researcher Harry Halén, a valuable addition that sheds light on the region's ancient Buddhist traditions and supplements large collections in other locations.

The National Library's older excerpts of works printed with moveable type are *Mainz Psalters* from the year 1457. Rabanus Maurus' *De sermonum proprietate, sive Opus de universo*, printed in Strasbourg in 1467, is the National Library's oldest complete book. A visitor to the *Treasures* exhibition can only marvel at the way this general overview of the world has survived over 500 years while looking like it just rolled off the press. In terms of its durability, the paper's quality challenges all modern pulp and wood chip-based papers.

The oldest known Finnish-language book is a fragment from the modest *ABC-kirja* ("ABC Book") prepared by Mikael Agricola. The Library does not have any copies of the original 1543 edition; the pages on display are from later editions.

The National Library is however not only a treasure chest of humanistic literature. In his work *Printed in the Memory*, Professor Matti Haltia vividly describes the Library's unique collections of medical literature; one example displayed in the *Treasures* exhibition is Constantinus Africanus' parchment manuscript *Theoria Pantegni* dating from the 1100s. An early illustrated guide for midwives, Eucharius Rösslin's *Der Schwangeren Frauen und Hebammen Rosengarten* dating from the year 1529, represents Otto Engström's collection.

Saint Agnes Mass

Laypersons will readily identify as treasures the Library's medieval parchments containing the litanies and psalms used in the Catholic Church's liturgical rituals. These folio-sized works, originally handwritten or printed on parchment or paper, have been exceptionally impressive in terms of their size and splendor. Besides celebrating God, they were also presumably made to demonstrate the might of the Catholic Church.

With the Reformation there was a danger that these treasures, along with the Church's silver and golden artifacts, might be destroyed, but pragmatic thinking prevailed more often than not. The stiffness of parchment skin saved the pages of the disassembled books for recycling, and they were used, for example, in the cover fillings and flyleaves of bailiwick's tax accounting books. In this way countless examples of manuscript and book printing artistry, each more elegant than the next with their exquisitely decorative initial letters – such as the *Graduale Aboense* and *Missale Aboense* displayed at the exhibition – were hidden for centuries until their value was fully under-

stood and recognized in the early 1800s. Nowadays they can be ranked among the National Library's most certifiably valuable treasures; Ph.D. Kari Tarkiainen has provided a fascinating account of their various phases in the work *Printed in the Memory – Literary Treasures in the National Library of Finland*.

Besides other expertise, the skills of a detective are needed when attempting to clarify from what book an individual fragment has been detached, in what parish the book has been in use, and to which historical period it belongs. Here Researcher Anja-Inkeri Lehtinen and Professor Ilkka Taitto are masters in the field. Often, owing to a scarcity of materials, texts were removed from the parchment and covered by new texts. Numerous examples of these so-called palimpsests are displayed in the *Treasures* exhibition.

Besides secular texts and documents, the 10,000-page parchment materials contain a substantial quantity of medieval hymns, many of which were performed by the *Cetus Noster* ensemble in connection with the *Helsinki Night of the Arts* event. Listeners felt transported far back into history when the tones of the Saint Agnes Mass dating from the 1300s, or the praise to God for the rescue of Kokemäki fishermen from an ice floe, reverberated from the balcony of the Cupola Hall.

Beauty in book design

Within the Library's treasure vaults are also works that – instead of their age or along with it – inspire amazement and pride owing to the beauty, sumptuousness, slimness or sturdiness of their decorations or bindings: Morocco leather, gilded lettering and decorative patterns, silver hinges and nameplates, velvet, and hand-tinted flyleaves. Examples of these on view in the exhibition include Finland's first and only incunabula *Missale Aboense* that Bartholomaeus Ghotan printed in Lubeck in 1488, Christoph Fischer's *Christliche, ein feltige Auslegung des gülden Kleinods* (Dresden 1585), the Russian Empress Elisabeth's exceptionally handsome coronation book from the year 1742 and the decorative *Koraani* from the 1800s.

Sometimes a skillful artist or in Finland's case three artists can inspire admiration. The brothers Ferdinand, Magnus and Wilhelm von Wright gained reputations as a result of their elegant illustrations of birds. In their technical proficiency and accurate depiction of feathers' shades they often surpass the works of the world-famous painter of birds John James Audubon, even while recognizing Audubon's unmatched ability to render birds' movements and the drama of nature in his illustrations.

Composer Erkki Melartin was also a painter and he illustrated many of his score folders.

• ERKKI MELARTIN •

II BALLAADIA | II BALLADER

pianolle | för piano

II BALLADEN

für Pianoforte

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99



Sermons and speeches in Finnish. A collected volume that belonged to Bishop Johannes Gezelius. The cover features black velvet and silver decorations.

The advent of lithographs and in particular colored lithographs brought a new kind of elegance to book illustrating beginning in the 1800s. Elegant examples of these on view in the *Treasures* exhibition include P. A. Kruskopf's historically fascinating hand-engraved illustration from Fiskars' *Finska Vuer* dating from 1837 or the beautiful blue-tinged colored lithograph originally published in 1825 – and reproduced in *Printed in the Memory* – of Mariana Islands fishermen in the western Pacific Ocean.

An illustration of a Brazilian grasshopper included in the exhibition for the sensitivity of its coloring is taken from Toussaint de Charpentier's work *Ortophthera descripta et depicta* (1841–1845) depicting straight-winged flies. There was only one printing and only 60 of the illustrations found their way into books, the remaining 140 are in the Zoological Museum of Königsberg. Nowadays rare book collectors pay thousands of euros for Charpentier's works.

A treasure of treasures

The publications found in the *Treasures* exhibition and reproduced in the work *Printed in the Memory* represent Finland's common cultural heritage. This is a tradition

about which all citizens can feel a sense of pride as well as a shared sense of responsibility for its maintenance, whether it is a question of a *Psalter* printed in Nuremberg in 1484, acquired last autumn by the National Library and the only known complete copy besides the one in the British Museum, or as another example, the elegant score page, depicting white swans swimming in darkly-tinted water, designed by composer Erkki Melartin.

An example of one of the items from the small printings collection included in the exhibition is the delightfully rendered street scene in a blue-tinted advertising brochure for the legendary Hotel Kämp. There are also culturally and historically fascinating letters: more formal such as the confirmation of farmland ownership from Queen Christina, the founder of the Helsinki University Library, or more informal such as artist Claude Monet's postcard to Albert Edelfelt. The Library's manuscript collection also has Louis Pasteur's emotional letter to Albert's sister Annie Edelfelt. Her brother had just painted Pasteur's most famous portrait at the time the great French scientist was developing a vaccine for rabies.

The *Treasures* exhibition displays the older, more unusual, and most beautiful works from the National Library's collections. Their value is universally recognized. Books can also be treasure chests of ideas, beliefs, dreams and information even when their material value is minimal. A treasure is by nature a spiritual or intellectual cultural legacy; on a more private level not everyone may have the key to an understanding of this kind of treasure chest, whether for linguistic or other reasons. And yet there are an almost uncountable number of these treasures in the National Library.

As a result of paper's tendency to become brittle and decompose with age, efforts are being to rescue irreplaceable text and image content with sophisticated conservation techniques as well as microfilming and digitization programs that will make the material available to all.

One treasure of treasures on view at the exhibition is not a rarity. In fact thousands of printings have been made in hundreds of languages. At the same time it is the work that has had the greatest impact on Western civilization. Several printings of *The Holy Bible* are displayed at the exhibition, one of the most handsome of which is Anton Koberger's *Biblia Germanica* printed in 1483.

**The Treasures exhibition
is open until 15.10.2005**



PALIMPSESTS –

the hidden texts of Europe's cultural tradition

A palimpsest is a manuscript whose text has been wiped or scratched away in one way or another and the writing material has been reused. From late Antiquity to the Late Middle Ages, parchment was almost the only writing material until paper replaced this extremely expensive, yet recycle-friendly material.



The term “palimpsest” comes from the Greek verb *psao*, meaning to wipe away or scratch. The prefix *palin* means “again” or “once more”. The term *palimpsestos* was used already in Antiquity in Greek and Latin to describe writing surfaces – initially wood boards and papyrus, and later medieval parchment – that were recycled when a previously written text had lost its meaning or relevance.

Although the original writing is rubbed or scratched away, the ink always leaves a trace on the writing surface. It can be detected by the naked eye to varying degrees, and the text is occasionally legible, but usually it is not. It has been estimated that one out of every 15 manuscripts surviving from Late Antiquity or the Medieval Greek era is a palimpsest.

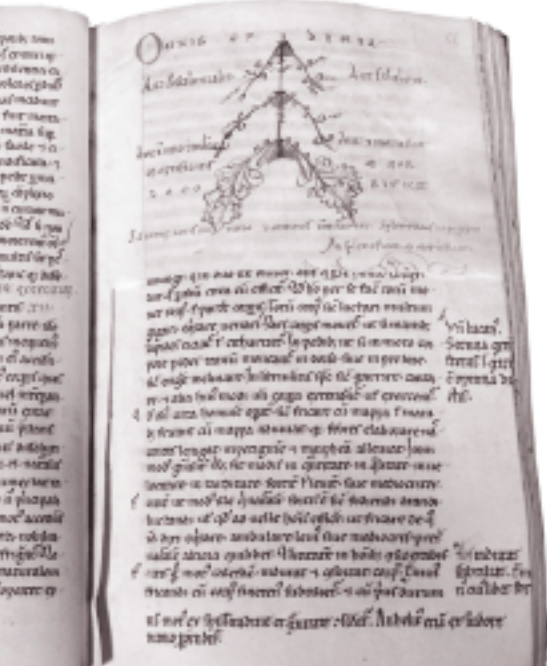
The motives for the recycling were usually economic; despite the abundance of lambs, particularly in Mediterranean cultural and domestic circles, the making of parchment was an extremely lengthy and laborious proc-

ess. Particularly in remote areas located far from cultural, political and economic centers, the recycling of old parchment manuscripts was a common practice. Consequently in peripheral Byzantine and Medieval Grecian cultural regions, as well as the areas absorbed by the expansion of Islam – southern Italy, Asia Minor, Palestine Egypt – re-use was extremely common.

What texts were selected when it became necessary to recycle available parchment materials? Here it must be pointed out that the copy centers of the Middle Ages were monasteries’ *scriptoriums*. The selections were more often than not influenced by extremely pragmatic motives: often it has been a question of, from the standpoint of a religious community’s daily life, the erasure of less relevant texts, in other words non-liturgical and non-theological manuscripts. Christian texts have often replaced, for example, the product of an antique or medieval non-Christian culture.

Codices rescripti

One of the best-known palimpsest manuscripts is the Archimedes manuscript now preserved at the Walters Art Gallery in Baltimore, Maryland, USA. Archimedes’ texts, originating from the 800s-900s and copied during the 1100s-1200s, have been covered by a prayer book (*Euchologion*). A study of the manuscript has revealed it to be



Constantinus Africanus: *Theorica Pantegni*. This manuscript on parchment, a partial palimpsest (codex rescriptus), was written in Northern Germany towards the end of the twelfth century. Helsinki University Library's collection.

one of the most important works in the Archimedes text tradition. Among its contents is the *Efodos* (*Ad Eratosthenem Methodus*), previously thought to have been lost, in which Archimedes explains his mathematical theorems with the help of mechanics. The significance of the manuscript had already been known in the early 1900s while it was still in the Greek Orthodox Patriarchal Library in Jerusalem, but it disappeared during the 1920s, only to resurface in 1999 at an auction held in the USA. It has only been possible to study the manuscript with modern methods in connection with the exhibition held at the Walters Art Gallery.

A manuscript's content did not however always correspond with its reuse; the *Codex Ephraemi Rescriptus*, a palimpsest nowadays preserved at the Bibliothèque Nationale de France in Paris and a biblical manuscript of major importance, exemplifies this. The New Testament text written during the 300s was erased during the 1100s and replaced with copies of the sermons of Saint Ephraim the Syrian translated into Greek. In this case the motives for the removal of the New Testament text would appear to have been paleographic; the uncial text style of Late Antiquity no longer satisfied the devotees of the *Codex Ephraemi Rescriptus* during the Middle Ages.

A virtual renaissance

In 2001 the *Forum Palimpsest Forschung* research network was established. Directed by the University of Hamburg's Department of Classical Philology, the network coordinates the cataloguing and research of surviving Greek palimpsest manuscripts preserved in the libraries of Europe and its neighboring regions. The network's primary participants are libraries in several European countries

possessing the better known Greek manuscripts as well as all institutions carrying out manuscript research.

The computer-based multispectral methods for digital imaging developed during the past several years provided a significant impetus for the project. The Italian photography laboratory Fotoscientifica (Parma), working together with manuscript researchers from the University of Bologna, made the main breakthrough in this area. The recycled parchments' erased texts can be made legible by utilizing the light spectrum's invisible frequencies; by filtering out certain wavelengths the uppermost text can be dimmed and the lower text can be made visible as the only text.

Nowadays it is estimated that only about 1 % of the written manuscripts produced in Antiquity have survived. Multispectral imaging applications for palimpsests are eagerly awaited because it is assumed that it will be possible to uncover previously unknown or lost texts surviving from antique Greek and Roman cultures. Significantly more was known about this literary and ideological heritage during the medieval Byzantine era than is the case nowadays. This is largely a consequence of the damage wrought by the 4th Crusade. In 1204 an army of Crusaders who had lost their way while heading for Egypt overran and sacked Constantinople, the center of Byzantine culture. In this connection the city was almost completely razed to the ground and priceless cultural treasures were lost forever.

The first discovery – falling within the sphere of the *Rinascimento virtuale* project – to make headlines was made last year at the Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, the Vatican library. Beneath a Syrian manuscript copied in the 1100s was revealed a previously unknown play by Menandros, a master of Athenian comedy.

A Finnish research unit is also participating in the *Rinascimento virtuale* project. In connection with the Academy of Finland's "Ancient and Medieval Greek Documents, Archives and Libraries" research project, a unit with the status of Centre of Excellence is carrying out a sub-project "The Library of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate in Alexandria" (GOPAL) that conserves, digitizes and studies the manuscripts of The Library of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate in Alexandria, Egypt.

The palimpsest exhibition currently in progress at the University of Helsinki presents the results of three years' work on the *Forum Palimpsest Forschung* –organized and EU-funded *Rinascimento Virtuale* project.

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Further information:

www.helsinki.fi/hum/kla/papupetra/santeri/projekti.html

www.rrz.uni-hamburg.de/RV/

My National Library

I fondly recall the times when I almost lived at the Helsinki University Library; it was like my second home. Looking back, it was also a certain kind of incubation stage in my life, a cozy cocoon phase that I enjoyed to the fullest. Much later I wrote a poem “National Library”, whose lines included:

*“Above, the marble heads, Dante
with his laurel wreathes, staring
with hollow cheeks, Shakespeare...
...now have the hundred heads
bowed under the vaults
reading strange writings
gaining the messages from the marble heads:
be like us
a skull, everywhere, resonant”*

The poem actually described the French National Library, but I want to drive home the point how Helsinki University Library, our National Library, sparked that dependency, after which a knowledge-thirsty infomaniac disguised as a researcher was consumed with a passion to search for library after library where I could be enveloped by them, where I could lose myself, forget, as in an opium den. Authors also need libraries for their work; everyone has the desire to find the lost books of Aristotle's *Poetics*. I lived at the university library at a time when the Internet had not yet been invented. Many surveys show that the Internet causes the same kind of dependence that I experienced at the library. Addiction has also been proved harmful to the health. There were many days, when I stepped out of my library into the twilight, slowly descending the steps, mirrored by the Cathedral's steps opposite, but above all taking in the evening's northern light as it softly dimmed, gently caressing eyes long accustomed to the library's low light levels.

During my college years I studied for many tests and wrote three Master's theses at our National Library. Particularly memorable was a Master's Degree in Roman literature that treated Tacitus' portrayal of women. I completed it the same week that I was to depart for many years to Cambridge, and everything that I wrote on those pages, all the books that I needed for that work, have left an indelible impression in my mind as a kind of "last will and testament", as I prepared to embark on a long journey of research work in England and France. In the course of that project I had uncovered a doctoral dissertation on Tacitus written by an aged German Professor, and I dared to write him at the university's address. To my astonishment I received an enthusiastic letter from Freiburg, in which the professor – now acting fairly youthful – welcomed an unknown young woman from Helsinki starting her career. A little later I helped an English brain researcher find books from the 1700s treating the visual sense from the so-called "Lomonosov" Library, as well as an Atlantis study from the late 1600s for a French professor. Both of my friend were grateful that I had been able to act as a liaison between our National Library and their research efforts – for my part I was delighted that the works in question had been found in my home town.

During my student years the searching, ordering and obtaining of books was above all manual labor. The handwritten catalogues were heavy; lifting them was as good as going to a gym, but flipping through them yielded rich finds. Although a humanist researcher aims at precision in information gathering, it is also advantageous to have a trait the French call *bricoleur*, the ability to pluck new information along the way and thereby create unexpected linkages. At our National Library I found many works in this way purely by chance – I almost lived there – and I

am not ashamed to admit this because the books proved to be intellectually valuable later.

Only a large library provides the possibilities for this kind of exploration. Even if a large library was to put its entire contents on the Internet, as is just now happening in different parts of the world, a virtual library can never be more than just a first step. These days I confess to be something of an internaut, and there is no denying the fact, for example that the gradual appearance of antique literature online beginning in the late 1980s has been important, or that the German Gutenberg program has smoothed the way for many interested in German Literature. The Bibliothèque Nationale de France has announced that it has 80,000 works available online, but this however represents only a fraction of the library's collections. Also the USA-based Google has recently launched a software program making 15 million works, primarily in the English language, available online, but even that still does not accurately convey the essence of a large library's information resources and their acquisition.

PHOTO: IRMELI JUNG



Ph.D. Kirsti Simonsuuri is currently a Docent in Comparative Literature at the Helsinki University. She holds a doctorate from Cambridge University (1977) and was Senior Researcher Fellow at the Academy of Finland 1981–89, she is author and poet. She has also been the Director of the Finnish Institute at Athens. Simonsuuri has been devoted to the Helsinki University Library for years.

FRBR in the management and cataloguing of web resources

The goal of the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records, FRBR¹, is to make it easier for users to find, identify, select and obtain access to materials. The further goals of collocation and navigation are given in the IFLA principles (2003). Elaine Svenonius², for example, has emphasized these two further goals previously.

FRBR is a new model for organizing information. It consists of entities (key objects of interest to users of bibliographic data), and the relationships between them. The entities are divided into three groups: a) products of intellectual or artistic endeavor – works, expressions, manifestations and items; b) persons and corporate bodies responsible for the creation, realization or the physical production and dissemination of these products, and c) subjects of intellectual or artistic endeavor: concepts, objects, events, places as well as the works, expression, manifestations, items, person, and corporate bodies that also can be the subjects of works.

This article examines how the intellectual and artistic work condensed in the FRBR model can be used in the managing and cataloguing of web resources. The management and cataloguing of the Finnish national writer Aleksis Kivi's best known novel *Seitsemän veljestä*, published in 1870 is analyzed in detail.

Aleksis Kivi's *Seitsemän veljestä* on the Internet

A Google-search (January 2005) for "Kivi" and "*Seitsemän veljestä*" gave 3,690 hits, "Kivi" and the title of the work in English "Seven brothers" 1,940 hits, in German "*Sieben Brüder*" 779, in Swedish "*Sju bröder*" 250 and in French "*Sept frères*" 223 hits. The references differ from those to, for example, Immanuel Kant's works in that they often point to related productions in other fields of art: the stage, music or fine arts.

The original text appears in HTML format twice. Even though *Seitsemän veljestä* has been translated to several languages, a complete translation is not available on the web in any language. Most of the pages in other lan-

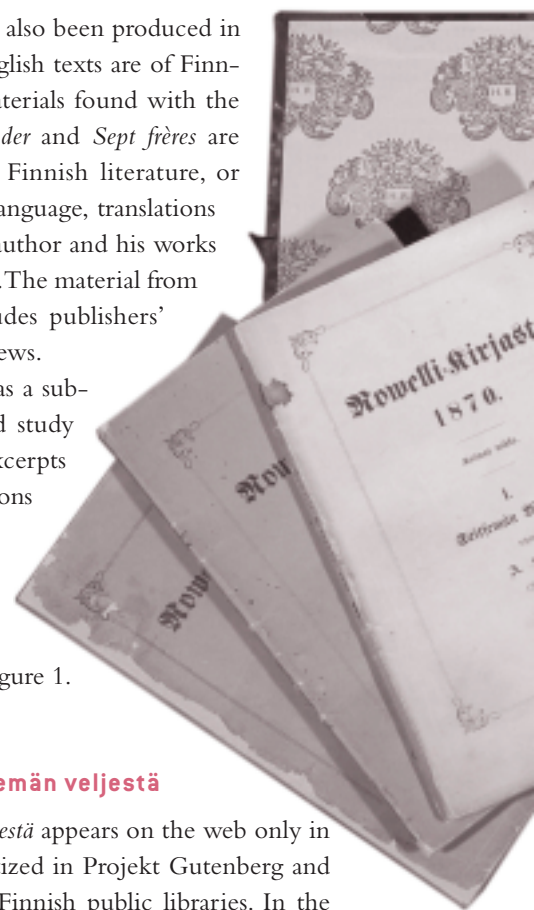
guages than Finnish have also been produced in Finland. Some of the English texts are of Finnish-American origin. Materials found with the search words *Sieben Brüder* and *Sept frères* are mostly presentations of Finnish literature, or sometimes the Finnish language, translations of short texts about the author and his works and lists of Finnish theses. The material from outside of Finland includes publishers' catalogues and book reviews.

Kivi's work appears as a subject in many studies and study materials. They include excerpts from Kivi's text, presentations of the author and exercises. These have for the most not been included in this analysis, whose materials are described in Figure 1.

FRBR analysis – *Seitsemän veljestä*

The text of *Seitsemän veljestä* appears on the web only in Finnish. It has been digitized in Projekt Gutenberg and as a joint effort of two Finnish public libraries. In the latter project, young readers are mentioned as a special target audience (Example 1). The Finnish Broadcasting Company YLE has the talking book version of *Seitsemän veljestä* on its website. Excerpts from the work appear for instance on the website of *Etälukio* (Upper secondary distance learning), on the pages of seminars about Kivi (Kivijalka 1999, 2001 and 2002), on private persons' homepages and on the pages of a reading circle analyzing the novel.

An English excerpt of the Seven Brothers in the Sauna



(Example 2) appears on the websites of three organizations, on two of these the appearance of the text is identical. An extract from the first page of *Seitsemän veljestä* is included in a French presentation of Finnish literature, while the poem *Sydämeni laulu* (“Song of My Heart”) from the final chapter of the novel appears on another French page. Some quotations concerning Christmas are translated to several languages have been collected on a website; the connection of these to Kivi’s work is however rather marginal.

In FRBR excerpts are considered as either dependent or independent components of a work. An independent component is so well known that it is considered to be a work in its own right, such is for example *Sydämeni laulu* (*Berceuse* in French, see example: work & independent component etc.). If the person who has published the excerpt on the web has added significant annotations or formatted the text (such as highlighting certain words with bold fonts), it might be considered as a new expression.

Theater and dance performances of *Seven Brothers* as well as art exhibitions (Example 3) on the subject are independent works according to FRBR. The performances themselves are not available on the web, only information about them. A further related group includes adaptations such as Mauri Kunnas’

The Seven Dog Brothers. All these works are related to Kivi’s novel under the concept of “family of works” or “superwork” (according to Svenonius). (See examples: works within family of works of *Seven Brothers*).

Cataloguing according to FRBR

There are many expressions and manifestations of Kivi’s work in printed form. The work has been translated into approximately 40 languages. Even though only a few manifestations can be found on the web, *work and expression level uniform titles* are necessary for identifying the documents.

Information about plays, movies, music and dance performances, as well as art exhibitions based on the novel can be very relevant information for those interested in Kivi’s novel or doing research on Kivi.

ACCESS POINTS: Author, works and expressions as uniform titles

Author: Kivi, Aleksis, 1834–1872
 < Stenvall, Alexis
 < Kivi, Alexis

Work: Kivi, Aleksis, 1834–1872
Seitsemän veljestä. 1870

Work & Independent component:

Kivi, Aleksis, 1834–1872
Seitsemän veljestä. *Sydämeni laulu*. French. Moreau
 < *Sydämeni laulu*
 < Tuonen lehto, öinen lehto

or

Work included in another work:

Kivi, Aleksis, 1834–1872
Sydämeni laulu. French. Moreau
In: *Seitsemän veljestä*
 < Kivi, Aleksis, 1834–1872. *Seitsemän veljestä*
 < *Seitsemän veljestä*
 < Kivi, Aleksis, 1834–1872. Tuonen lehto, öinen lehto

or

Work & Dependent component:

Kivi, Aleksis, 1834–1872
Seitsemän veljestä. French. Excerpt. *Berceuse*
 Kivi, Aleksis, 1834–1872
Seitsemän veljestä. English.
 Excerpt. The Seven Brothers in the Sauna
 < Seven Brothers in the Sauna

Works - within “family of works” of Seven brothers

Kivi, Aleksis, 1834–1872
Seitsemän veljestä. Dance performance. Finnish National Ballet. Helsinki, Finland. 1980

Kivi, Aleksis, 1834–1872
Seitsemän veljestä. Swedish. Play. Lurens sommar-teater. 1968–1969

Kivi, Aleksis, 1834–1872
Seitsemän veljestä. Art exhibition / Riitta Nelimarkka & Jaakko Seeck. Helsinki, Finland. 1997

Expressions:

Kivi, Aleksis, 1834–1872
Seitsemän veljestä. 1870
Seitsemän veljestä. Äänikirja Internetissä [online talking book], 2004

DESCRIPTIONS: Manifestations

Examples

- 1) manifestation of an expression in original language
Title: *Seitsemän veljestä*
Statement of responsibility: Aleksis Kivi
Publisher/Distributor: Pori City Library–Satakunta Provincial Library, Salo City Library
Date of publication: 2001–2002
Fabricator/Manufacturer: Asko Hursti, Elise Nuotio, Vesa Taimi



Seven Brothers has been translated into over 30 languages. Among the translations' cover illustrations one of the most interesting is Cyrilla Boudy's illustration of the brothers at Hiidenkivi. Vladimir Skalicka translated the novel, which was published in Prague by Topicova Edice in 1941.

Intended audience: schoolchildren and young adults
URL: <http://www.pori.fi/kirjasto/e-kirja/7veljesta.htm>

- 2) manifestation of an excerpt from an English translation with three items

Title: Seven Brothers in the Sauna

Statement of responsibility: from “Seven Brothers” by Aleksis Kivi

Publisher/Distributor: Tripod

Note:

Uralic Family home page

URL: <http://peacecountry0.tripod.com/kivi.htm>

URL: <http://www.sauna.org/lore-brothers.html>

URL: <http://www.geocities.com/ojoronen/KIVI.HTM>

- 3) manifestation of a work & expression related to Seven brothers

Title: Seitsemän veljestä: watercolors and animations.

Statement of responsibility: Riitta Nelimarkka & Jaakko Seeck.

Note: Exhibition at the Finnish Film Archive's gallery
10 October – 7 November 1997

Updated: 2000

URL: http://www.sea.fi/esittely/historia/seitseman_veljesta2.html

Summary

According to the search results Aleksis Kivi's works continue to stimulate interest. New performances of Kivi's

novel are still being created. By examining the references that Google provides it is difficult to see which of them would be interesting to libraries and their customers. The same references appear several times and many irrelevant references are included in the search results. It is difficult to differentiate between full text documents, translations, excerpts and other important information from the multitude of references.

The FRBR model would simplify access to the documents by using uniform work and expression level titles. The use of the same expression on different website locations as in Example 2 is problematic: should they be considered as different manifestations or items?

Works with *Seitsemän veljestä* as their subject, and other related works usually have only one expression and a single manifestation. In these cases it is difficult and perhaps fruitless to separate work and expression in cataloguing. They have the same uniform title. Even the manifestation might have the same title.

The management of web documents relating to Kivi's *Seitsemän veljestä* is more complex compared to a scientific work. There are only two text manifestations and one talking book version of the complete original work on the web, but many excerpts. It might be difficult to know whether an excerpt is an independent work or a dependent or independent component of a work. The alternatives for access points are presented with *Sydämeni laulu*. A new problem may arise if the excerpt has several expressions, for example if the excerpt includes commentary and significant formatting.

Seitsemän veljestä is a basis for very different kinds of productions. When the production is a different art form, it is a new work. To show relationships between such works and the original, the concept of “family of works” or “superwork” is needed. Could FRBR be expanded in this direction as well?

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(Footnotes)

¹ Functional requirements for bibliographic records : final report / IFLA Study Group on the Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records; approved by the Standing Committee of the IFLA Section on Cataloguing [International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. IFLA Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC Programme]. Munich: K. G. Saur, 1998. (UBCIM Publications, New Series; vol. 19)

Also available online as: <http://www.ifla.org/VII/s13/frbr/frbr.pdf>

² Svenonius, Elaine, The intellectual foundation of information organization. Cambridge, MA: The MIT Press, 2000.

Works & expressions

Web manifestations



Figure 1: Seitsemän veljestä, its expressions, manifestations and related works. WORK: ALEKSI KIVI, SEITSEMÄN VELJESTÄ [Seven brothers]

PHOTO: HELSINKI UNIVERSITY MUSEUM



Antti Aarne

– a global classic of folkloristics

Five years from now it will be possible to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of an innovation – the world's first usable folktale type index – produced by a Finnish humanist. Its author, Antti Amandus Aarne (1867–1925), had noticed, while writing his dissertation *Vergleichende Märchenforschungen* (1907), how difficult it was to search for research materials in foreign heritage collections. If the archives throughout Europe could consistently code their collections' most common types of folktales, folklorists from other countries could quickly find texts related to their own research themes.

Aarne decided to make order out of circumstance. The project was international in scope right from the start. Folklore Fellows, a network of researchers still functioning today, was founded to support the project. Aarne's support group included his countrymen Kaarle Krohn and Oskar Hackman, the Dane Axel Olrik, the German Johannes Bolte as well as the Swede Carl W. von Sydow. Aarne began his classification work pragmatically and inductively, assembling a corpus of text that consisted of Finnish and Karelian folktale records, Svend Grundtvig's classifications of Danish folktales as well as the Grimm Brother's *Kinder- und Hausmärchen* anthology. He divided this material into sub-species (animal, fairytale, short stories and jokes) and defined the plots reappearing in many versions as a story type that was then assigned a standard name, a brief characterization of its content and a numerical code. The tale of a frog who turns into a prince when the heroine flings it against a wall was given the name *Froschkönig* and type number Aa 440. Also included were references to archival sources and the folktale's printed versions.

Continuing in this manner, Aarne completed his index *Verzeichnis der Märchentypen* in 1910; it treated 587 international story plots. The following year he published, using his newly developed "system", an index of Finnish-Karelian folktales with archival references.

Sound dull? Undoubtedly – but only at first glance. As you will see Aarne succeeded beyond all expectations. He produced a workable tool that has continued to delight folklorists, literary researchers, anthropologists and philologists to this day. The type index's astonishing offspring is proof of this. Three renewed and expanded editions of Aarne's international index have been prepared. The first of these (1926, 1961) were made by the American folklorist, Professor Stith Thompson, and the most recent (2004) by the German literary researcher Professor Hans-Jörg Uther. At the same time the type index's language was changed to English and type code's letter code was adjusted according to each author. *Aa* first became *AT* or *AaTh* and eventually *ATU* in 2004. The publisher, the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters (Academia Scientiarum Fennica), has remained the same for over 100 years.

The type index conquers the world

By the 1990s over 70 folklore type indexes structured by language area had appeared. Of these nearly fifty folktales had been organized according to Aarne's definitions. The ethnic and language menu is genuinely global: the type indexes provide an overall view of folk narratives from Ireland to India and from the polar regions to Africa and East-Asia, as well as North and South America. The tales of the Australian aborigines have also been classified by

species, and their primary contents have been explained and typified. The format developed by Aarne has also been applied to other folklore species: tales, ballads, and even adages.

With the help of a well-prepared type index researchers and laypersons can quickly obtain a general impression of the content of a certain region's narratives or songs. Because most type indexes have been published in English, they can also be used to gain familiarity with the folktales, myths and narratives of more exotic cultures.

Scanning through Aarne's international heritage has always been a pleasant task for Finnish folklorists. On the dark side, national pride has occasionally attempted to rear its ugly head. Particular satisfaction has resulted from the fact that the nations idolized by the Finns, for example the Swedes, English and French, have categorized their folktales with Aarne-type indexes. In particular, the French duo Paul Delarue and Marie-Louise Tenèze has carried out exhaustive work: *Le conte populaire français* (1957–1985) covers four volumes. The size record is however held by the Hungarians' 10-volume *Magyar Népmesekatalógus*.

Aarne who?

Antti Aarne was born in Pori, a small town on Finland's western coast, on 5 December 1867. His father was a master blacksmith who died while Aarne was still a young boy, and he also lost his mother while he was still of school age. The gifted and diligent youth however excelled at his studies. Aarne graduated as a student from the Pori Private Lyceum in 1889 and earned a Bachelor's degree from the Imperial Alexander University in 1893. During the years 1895–1898 he studied in Moscow, where he also compiled materials for his doctoral dissertation. The completion of his thesis was however delayed for economic reasons: to support himself and his family Aarne worked as a Finnish teacher – also occasionally as a rector – at a secondary school. Aarne eventually earned Ph.D. degree in 1907 at the age of 39, but the discordance between research and working at a steady job continued afterwards as well.

In 1911 Aarne was appointed docent of a study focusing on the traditional poetry of Finland and comparable nations, and he was able to work abroad during the period 1913–1914, primarily in Germany, France and England. It was only in 1922, when he was appointed as an Extra Professor at the University of Helsinki, that he was able to fully devote himself to his research and university teaching duties. This phase was to however remain all too brief; Antti Aarne died in 1925 at the age of 57.

The tone of a martyred legend can be detected in the necrologies. The religious scientist Uno Holmberg (at that time Harva) presumed that the reasons for Aarne's weakened health were "long and exhausting workdays that



Gunnar Berndtson's initial letter for the fairy tale "*Pojken och jättarna*" ("The Boy and the Giants"), that tells of a clever tailor's son. "Det var en skräddarpojke, som slog tre flugor i en smäll..." ("Once upon a time there was a tailor's son who swatted three flies with a single blow"). Helena Westermarck: Nyländska folksagor. Helsinki 1897. Helsinki University Library's collection.

he had to endure as a result of being poor at an early age". At the same time Aarne's diligence and conscientiousness – in his academic work as well as his research – was fondly recalled.

It is difficult to visualize Aarne as a person. His researches are clear-cut, consistent and precise, and his conclusions are cautious and carefully argued. He studied Finnish-Karelian-European folktales according to that time's comparative paradigm by first assembling a body of text material that was regionally and temporally as comprehensive as possible, and then analyzing the features and variants recurring in the corpus with highly precise comparisons. The goal was to pinpoint the folktale's area of origin and earliest content. Aarne also used the same technique to study Kalevala-length epics and enigmas. The result was always a dry but impressive rendition of the research subject. On the plus side remains the fact that Aarne, unlike many of his contemporaries, was never guilty of indulging in quasi-historical speculation.

A happy ending

Astonishingly, Aarne's narrative typology has continued to stir passions through the decades. Certain lay folklore aficionados have experienced these types of studies as the shattering of enchantment. Shouldn't our childhood's glittering fantasy world remain free of categories and numerical codes? On the other hand the comedic dimensions of the task have not gone unnoticed, and wonderment has been expressed about a science whose practitioners spend their time classifying dragons, witches, devils and talking horses. Type indexes have also brought smiles to the faces of folklore researchers. It is rumored that joke-telling sessions at folklorists' dinner parties are fast-paced: the storyteller calls out: "AT 1825A" and the listeners burst out laughing.

On a few occasions during the last century, paradigm shifts in folkloristics subjected Aarne's type index to harsh criticism. The most severe attack came from the Structuralists during the 1920s and 1960s. The USSR folklorist Vladimir Propp considered Aarne's way of describing the main content of folktales as plot references completely unfounded. In Propp's opinion, folktales consisted of a host of basic events that he defined by using a higher level of generalization that Aarne had used in his own summaries. In other words, instead of "Farmhand cheats Devil" it was "Hero beats villain".

Also the Theory of Oral Composition inspired certain researchers to take a swing at Aarne during the 1970s and 1980s. Folklorists had moved from their archives to the field and noticed that the singers of epics or storytellers never repeated their songs and narratives in exactly the same way. Because the storyteller fashioned his or her narrative uniquely in every performance situation, the belief in the existence of established plots was called into question. From today's perspective both disputes belong to history. Depending on the sequence of events in stories, the plots can be described at several different levels of generalization depending on the research focus and organization. On the other hand, the chains of events in the kinds of European folktales that have been taped in more or less authentic field conditions typically adhere to Aarne's plot types.

Aarne's main work thus sailed through the storms of the 1900s intact and with flying colors. Currently a renaissance of sorts is underway in type indexes; several folklore directories lie on the tables of scientific publishers waiting to be fed into printing presses. In all probability Aarne and storytellers will continue to live happily ever after for a long time.

Satu Apo is a Professor of Folklore
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From philosophy to fairytales, comic strips and theater

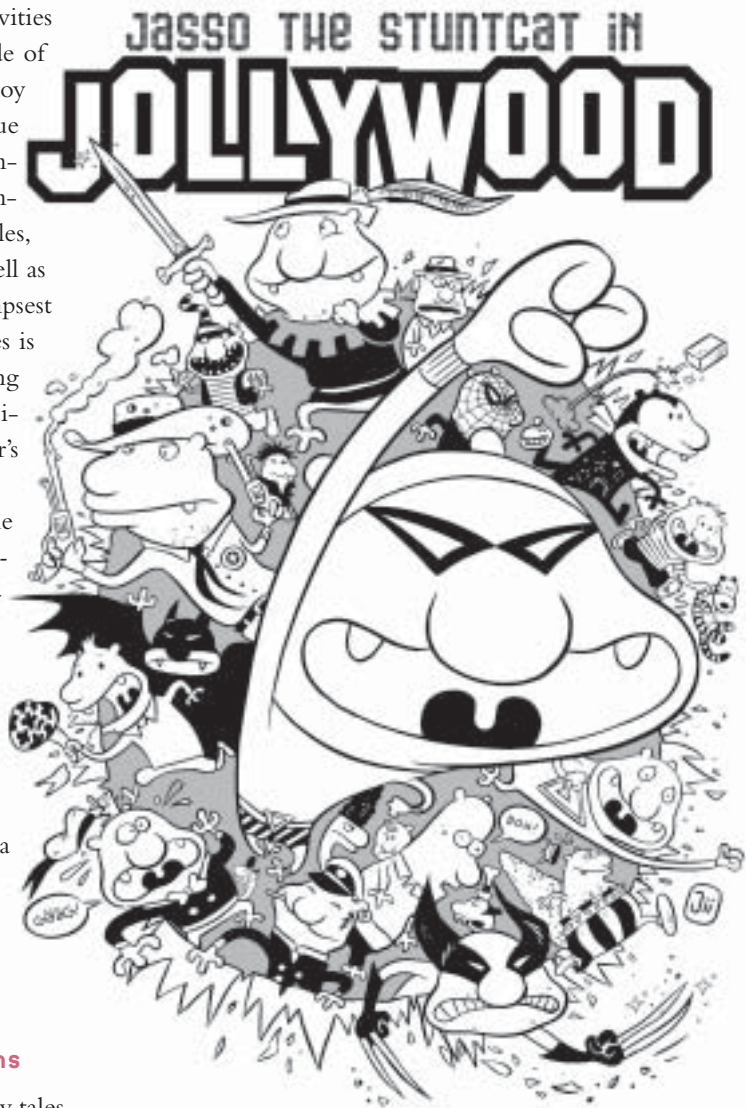
The National Library's Exhibitions 2005

The goal of the National Library's exhibition activities is to present the Library's collection in a multitude of ways that acquaint the public with the adventure, joy and inspiration of information sources. These unique collections provide ideas for almost any subject imaginable, as the exhibitions for the year 2005 demonstrate. The themes have been philosophy, fairy tales, bookplates, comics, the theater, book design, as well as literature-related medieval manuscripts and palimpsest research. An important part of exhibition activities is the fostering of interaction and cooperation among researchers in different academic and scientific disciplines, and this is also clearly discernable in this year's exhibitions.

The year began philosophically. In January, the *Finnish Philosophers in the World – the World's Philosophers in Finland* exhibition in the Gallery was supplemented with the *Relative or Not?* café exhibition, coordinated with the theme of Helsinki's Science Forum, that presented contemporary Finnish philosophers. *The Night of the Arts in the National Library* likewise concentrated on philosophy. In the panel discussion Professor Heta Gylling, Rector Ilkka Niiniluoto and Professor Juha Sihvola pondered truth and the relativity of fairness. The Cupola Hall was packed with an audience who also actively participated in the lively discussions.

Playfulness and beauty in the café exhibitions

In February philosophical truths made way for fairy tales in a café exhibition organized to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the birth of the Danish storyteller H. C. Andersen. The exhibition featured gleanings from the Library's international Brummeriana collection of children's books. In March the Committee of Finnish Book Design's awards for the Best-Designed Books 2004 and The Best-Designed Book of the Year followed the fairytales. After book design it was time for a café exhibition with bit of April foolery and wackiness when the Finnish Comics Society announced the winner of its annual *Puupäähattu* Award: cartoonist and graphic artist Juha "Jii" Roikonen. In citing the justifications for the award, it was stated that



Jasso the Cat, the comic strip character created by Jii Roikonen, is popular with all age groups.

Roikonen's comics have the kind of energy and creative craziness that the world needs more of: "There is not a trace of cynicism or malevolence in his work. Roikonen's comics emphasize the importance of playfulness in life. Life without joy is a heavy burden." For a short time, Jasso the Cat, Jii Roikonen's best-known creation, took over the vitrines of the National Library's café.



Artist Kay Nielsen's illustration for *The Swineherd*.
Fairy Tales by Hans Christian Andersen. London 1924.

Cultural interaction

Treasures, the year's most wide-ranging exhibition, has proven to be a popular success. Displayed at the exhibition are the National Library's oldest, most beautiful and most unique cultural treasures exceeding a time span of 2100 years beginning a few hundred years before the advent of the Christian calendar. The Library's collection experts working jointly with researchers made the selections for the exhibition, which opened in the Cupola Hall on 8 March 2005. In her opening remarks President of the Republic of Finland Tarja Halonen stated that: "The main starting point for this exhibition has been to present the interaction between our literary cultures and the rest of the world's countries and national traditions. Our national culture has not evolved in isolation, but as the result of a continuous interaction with Eastern and Western cultures. Today's European Finland was not created instantly when our country joined the EU; rather it is a question a long history and multiple linkages, as the earliest medieval documents in this exhibition reveal."

Running concurrently with the

Treasures exhibition, the *Rinascimento virtuale* exhibition at the National Library's Gallery displays the results of the palimpsest project covering all European countries. The project's Finnish representatives Professor Jaakko Frösén and Researcher Mika Hakkarainen have been the exhibition's consulting partners. Also at the Gallery are displayed two medieval manuscripts from the theme entities *The Arrival of Science in Medieval Finland* and *Treasures from Church Archives* planned by Researcher Anja Inkeri Lehtinen.

In the Rotunda's display vitrines, the year began with the exhibition *Exlibris – Miniature Posters*, an assembly of bookplates, as well as the paintings that inspired them, from Helmiriitta Honkanen, one of Finland's most productive bookplate artists and a multi-talented graphic designer. In connection with the exhibition Helmiriitta Honkanen donated an extensive selection of her bookplate designs to the National Library.

After the bookplates, it was the theater's turn in late February: the exhibition *Relatives in the Limelight* presented the receptions given to Finnish and Estonian theater productions in Hungary for a period spanning 125 years. The exhibition – originally initiated as a joint project among the national libraries of Hungary, Estonia and Finland – is a superb example of workable cooperation and interaction among the participating countries' national libraries and researchers. Theater researcher Ildikó Sirató (Eötvös Loránd University and the Hungarian Dance Academy in Budapest) designed the exhibition panel materials. The planning of the display case materials was carried out jointly with the University of Helsinki's Department of Theatre Research under the direction of Professor Pirkko Koski. On display were theater programs, photographs and other souvenirs of Hungarian theater performances in Finland as well as gleanings from the Ida Aalberg archives. The exhibition was supplemented by an excellent exhibition catalogue, published by the National Széchényi Library (the National Library of Hungary), in whose introduction Ildikó Sirató states: "The cooperation between our countries' theatrical professions already began before 1880 and it has continued without interruption to this day. It is a question of cross-border cooperation among institutions, artists, as well as theater audiences." In its own ingenious way, the *Relatives in the Limelight* exhibition has also invigorated the theater-related research taking place between the three countries; next autumn a seminar for theater researchers from Hungary, Estonia and Finland will be organized in connection with an exhibition held at the National Széchényi Library.

National jubilee years seen in the Library's exhibitions

Many exhibitions mounted in 2005 related to jubilee year events, such as *From Cradle to Grave – Through the Church?*, organized with the Ecclesiastical Board and The Finnish Society of Church History in connection with *The Church in Finland 850 Years* anniversary. The exhibition, displayed in the Library's Rotunda from 31 May 2005 until 27 August 2005, was designed by the researchers Docent Tuija Laine and Doctor of Theology Kaisamari Hintikka. The exhibition shows how four liturgical functions – baptism, confirmation, weddings and funerals – have changed over the centuries. Although the essential contents of the functions in question have remained unaltered, they have however had to adjust to prevailing societal challenges and trends.

Jubilee year themes also relate to other exhibitions, such as the summertime café exhibition artist *Magnus von Wright 200 Years* and the autumn exhibition writer *Pentti Haanpää 100 Years*.

The year ended with Christmas carols – as well as a celebration of *Sylvia's Christmas Song*, one of Finland's most beautiful songs: "Now Christmas did come to the north country here". The year marks the 150th Anniversary of the song's creation; Karl Collan composed the song in 1855 based on a poem by Zacharias Topelius. Both the composer's and poet's archives belong to the Helsinki University Library's manuscript collections.

After Christmas songs the road will lead to a new year, new exhibitions and anniversary events. In January, *J. V. Snellman – European Thinker*, an international travelling exhibition organized to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of J. V. Snellman's birth, will open in the National Library's Gallery. The exhibition's planning group consists of the experts Dr. Carola Häntsch (University of Greifswald), Licentiate in Philosophy, Researcher Rainer Knapas, Rector Ilkka Niiniluoto, Licentiate in Social Sciences, Philosopher Eero Ojanen and Doctor of Social Sciences, Docent Raimo Savolainen. J. V. Snellman was the cornerstone of Finnishness and Finnish culture – was he perhaps a radical of his times, an obstructionist and modern thinker? How did the European thinking filtered through Snellman affect Finland? The exhibition's Snellman researchers open new and fascinating doors to the national philosopher's world of ideas.

Inkeri Pitkäranta
Exhibition Coordinator
Helsinki University Library

The Finnish ISBN Agency's significance in the international ISBN network

The international ISBN system has functioned as the identifier of separate monographic works since the late 1960s. Currently about 170 countries utilize the system. In Finland the publishing industry has used the ISBN system successfully since 1972.

The International ISBN Agency administers and coordinates global ISBN activities in cooperation with national centers. Procedural guidelines and the ISBN system's conventions are agreed upon at annual international conferences. A working committee (5 member countries) chosen by the International ISBN Agency and national centers prepares the matters that will be handled at the conferences. Regional meetings, in which national centers discuss their areas' special issues, are also organized each year. Nordic-Baltic ISBN meetings have been arranged as necessary since the 1990s. Last year this meeting was held in Copenhagen, and its main theme was the implementation of the ISBN system's renewal process. The cooperation among national centers has continuously increased and the contacts gained in meetings are effectively exploited in the centers' ISBN activities.

The ISBN system's worldwide success story has continued for over 35 years, but the increased proliferation of publishing activities and new materials over the last few years has led to an alarming decrease of ISBNs in all countries utilizing the codes.

In early 2002 an international project whose purpose is the revision of the ISBN standard (ISO TC 46/SC9/Working Group 4 for ISO Project 2108's Revision of the ISBN Standard) was launched. The publishing industry's various organizations – from publishers to libraries – are represented in the working group revising the standard. There have been two representatives from the Helsinki University Library in this working group.

The purpose of this standard, which includes a specification of the ISBN's structure, is to co-ordinate and standardize the ISBN's proper and appropriate use. Beginning 1 January 2007 the new 13-digit ISBN will be taken into use worldwide, replacing the old 10-digit code. The 13-digit ISBN will be identical to the EAN barcodes used in books.

With the adoption of the new ISBN standard, the ISBN system's international administration will be renewed. Since its founding, the International ISBN Agen-

cy has functioned at the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin – Preussischer Kulturbesitz in Berlin and will continue its operations there until 31 March 2006. The Center's scanty resources have been supported by the publication of the Publishers' International ISBN Directory as well as foundation support. In early April of 2006 the Agency will be transferred to Great Britain and the management model will become increasingly diversified as national centers' financial responsibility for the ISBN systems' upkeep increases.

Maarit Huttunen
Library Assistant
The Finnish ISBN Agency
Helsinki University Library

The Finnish ISSN Centre and the international ISSN network

The ISSN (International Standard Serial Number) is an international standardization code that facilitates the precise identification of a specific magazine, serial, or any other regularly published periodical, even if the publications have the same name. The system has been in use since 1976.

Besides its identification and search attributes, the ISSN code enhances a publication's recognition because information about all publications obtaining an ISSN code is entered into the international ISSN Online Database.

The international ISSN network consists of the International ISSN Centre headquartered in Paris and 77 National Centres. The International ISSN Centre coordinates and develops the network's activities, maintains the ISSN Online Database and furnishes ISSN codes to the national centres.

National centres manage the allocation of ISSN codes in their areas of responsibility and transmit information about the publications receiving ISSN codes to Paris.

When distributing the codes, the Finnish ISSN Centre adheres to the guidelines provided by the International ISSN Centre while taking into account localized applications. The Centre is also responsible for allocating the codes in Finland and furnishing code-related publication information to the International ISSN Centre.

International policies are decided at annual meetings.

We also participate in the development and renewal

of ISSN standards, guidelines, and the International Centre's operations as a part of the National Centre's work and as a member of the Governing Board of the International ISSN Centre.

Riitta Vartiainen
Library Assistant
The Finnish ISSN Centre
Helsinki University Library

Gunnar Nordström, Einstein and relativity

This year we are celebrating the centenary of 1905, the year Albert Einstein changed physics forever with a series of revolutionary articles. Gunnar Nordström (1881–1923) was his Finnish contemporary and rival. While Einstein started as a patent officer, Nordström began his career as an engineer. Continuing his studies in Göttingen to become a physical chemist, Nordström became captivated



Toivo and Alma Kuula



with new and exciting concepts in physics, and gave up his other pursuits to focus exclusively on issues of relativity, electrodynamics and gravitation.

In 1912 Nordström suggested a scalar theory of gravitation, preceding Einstein's general theory of gravitation. Einstein gave this new theory considerable attention while working towards his own tensor theory. Both theories were considered tenable until 1919, when proof of the bending of light rays during an eclipse validated Einstein's theory.

Nordström was the first person to introduce a fifth dimension to the fabric of space-time in an attempt at a unified theory of electromagnetism and gravitation. This approach is interesting as an early scalar version of the 5-dimensional theory developed by Theodor Kaluza and Oskar Klein a decade later.

Nordström also made significant contributions to Einstein's theory. He studied the general problem of a finite matter source with an electric charge. This significant contribution can be found in modern textbooks of general relativity as the Reissner-Nordström metric for a non-rotating charge distribution.

After having written his groundbreaking articles abroad, Nordström returned to Helsinki where he continued his work until his early death at the age of 42. Experimenting with radioactive substances had been one of his hobbies and very likely a cause of his terminal illness. In Finland, Nordström's role was that of an introducer of novel physical ideas. He wrote several textbooks that are found in the collections of the National Library, and taught general relativity to a new generation of Finnish students.

The year 2005 marks the 100th Anniversary of Albert Einstein's Theory of Relativity.

Eva Isaksson
Department of Astronomy
University of Helsinki

An online artwork about the artist couple Toivo and Alma Kuula

In the autumn of 2004, the Helsinki University Library's website launched an elegant and diversified multimedia work *Ammi ja Toivo*, that depicts the lives of composer Toivo Kuula (1883–1918) and singer Alma Kuula (1884–1941). The online work of art has been assembled using archive materials, sound clips and sheet music examples. It contains 225 pages of text, 50 sound clips and 29 short recorded excerpts. The basis of the work is the Toivo and Alma Kuula Archive that belongs to the Helsinki University Library's manuscript collections. The work was designed and implemented by a working group consisting of Sari Koskinen, Outi Mansikkamäki, Johannes Raumonen and Niina Tamminiemi.

The work can be found at the address:
www.lib.helsinki.fi/kuula

"The cultural ambience must accept the notion that an idea can succeed only if it has the license to fail. A creative person needs spiritual space; the ecstasy of cooperation must also respect the trailblazers and individuality."

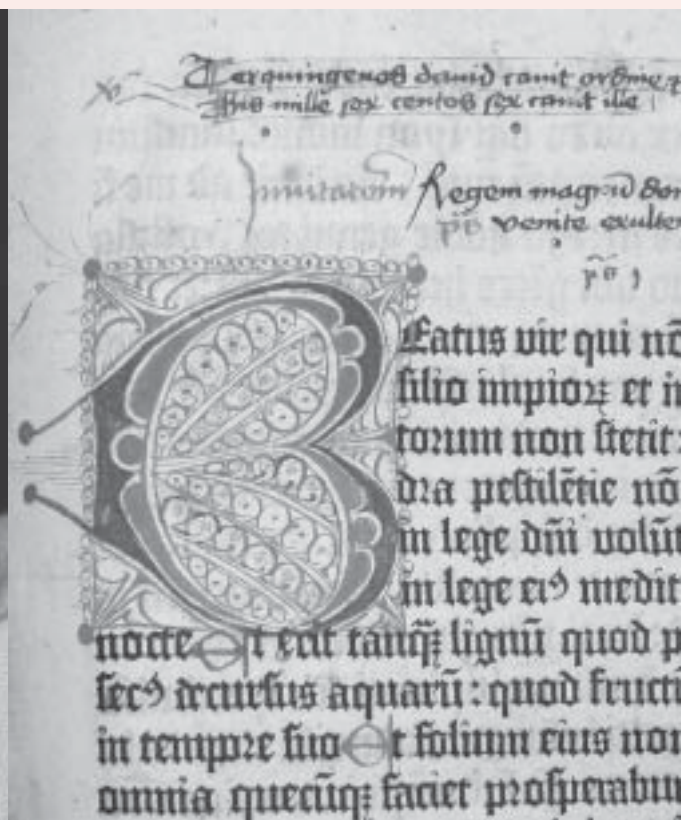
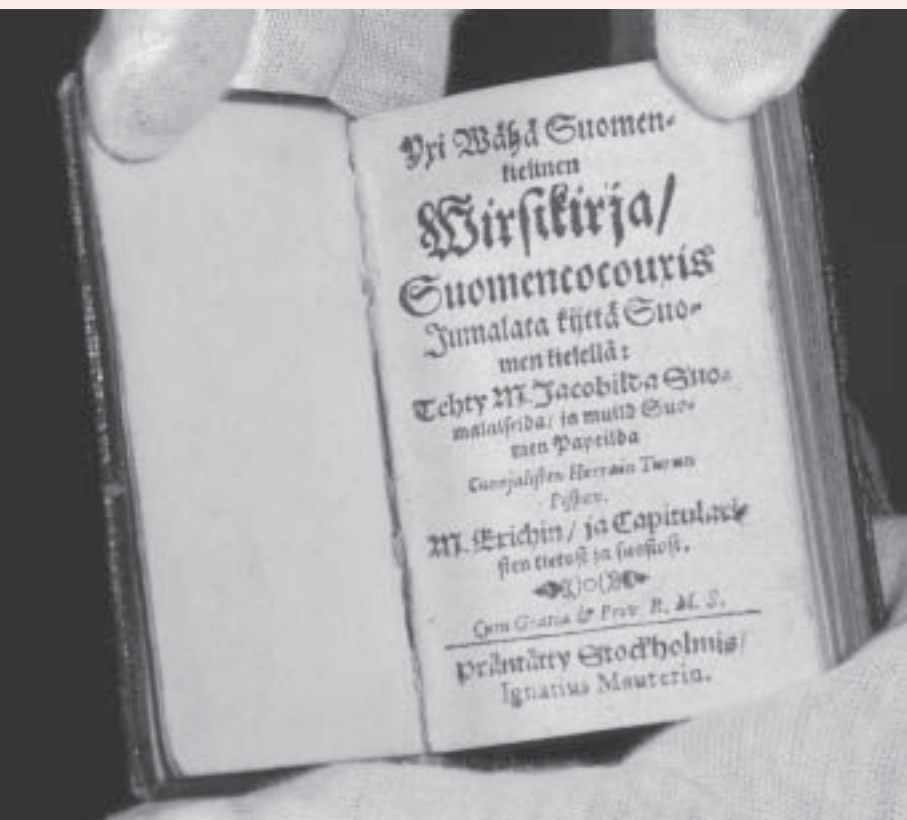
Tiina Mattila-Sandholm

highlights

The library has received one of the most valuable gifts of books in its history, the private library of Professor *Heikki A. Reenpää*, former Managing Director of the Finnish publishing house Otava. The Reenpää Collection, consisting of 25,000 titles, focuses on old Finnish literature. Finnish fiction is well represented in the gift because *belles lettres* is one of the Otava publishing house's main themes. The literary substance and the bibliophilic value of the collection are exceptional because Professor Reenpää, himself a renowned bibliophile and a pre-eminent Finnish collector of books, has always emphasized the intrinsic material value of books.

The library has purchased two separate rare books: a previously relatively unknown 17th century Finnish hymnal *Yxi wähä suomenkielinen wirsikirja*. Stockholm: Ignatius Meurer [ca. 1660] and an extremely rare Psalter from South Germany *Psalterium*. Nürnberg: Friedrich Creussner, non post 1484. There are only two copies extant of this *Psalterium*; the other copy belongs to the British Library's collections.

Helsinki University Library



The latest manuscript donations

The Helsinki University Library has received new manuscript deposits and donations.

Most of the new donations are music manuscripts. The Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra donated the first version of Jean Sibelius's *Saga* Op.9 which is also the only known document of the first version of the music. Besides the orchestral score, this donation also includes orchestral material for the music. Sibelius researcher Tuija Wicklund, who works in the *Jean Sibelius Works - A Critical Edition* project, found the material.

Teosto, The Finnish Composers' Copyright Society, deposited their concert program bulletins from the sixties to the mid-nineties. This material is very useful for researchers looking for information on the history of performed music in Finland.

The library has also received several societies' archives. Sulasol, The Finnish Amateur Musicians' Association, donated some new official material, as well as the letters from Jean Sibelius to the choir conductor Heikki Klemetti.

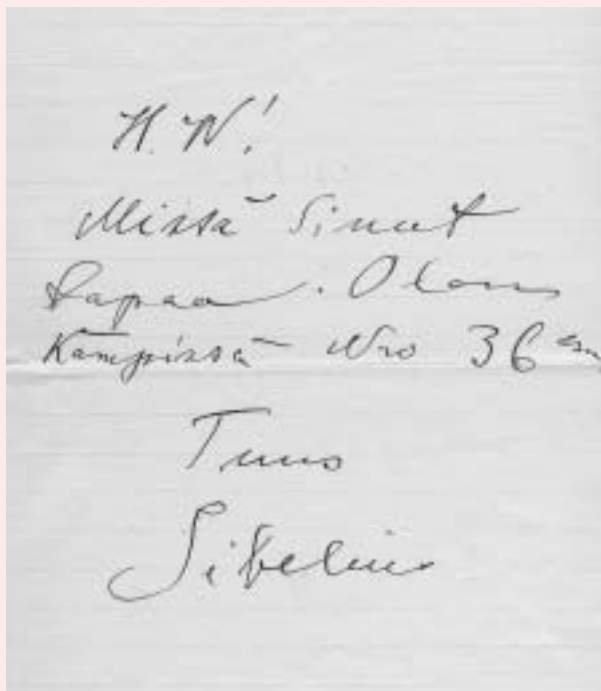
The Sibelius Society was founded in 1957, the same year Sibelius died, and their archive was deposited with

the Helsinki University Library in December 2004. Very similar to the Sibelius Society's archive is the Toivo Kuula Society's archive that was received as a deposit in March 2005.

In January 2005 the library's Manuscript Collections received the archive of the *International Federation of Psychoanalytic Societies* (IFPS) as a deposit. Additionally, the Tatarica collection was donated to the Helsinki University Library in April. This archive contains publications and other material from the Finnish Volga-Turkish Society.

These archives consist primarily of records and correspondence, but also include a great deal of other historical material concerning the societies. These materials will be made available for researchers' use as soon as they have been catalogued.

Petri Tuovinen
Curator of Music Manuscripts
Helsinki University Library



Composer Jean Sibelius's letter to composer Heikki Klemetti: "Dear brother. Where can I meet you? I am at the Kämp (a well-known Helsinki restaurant in the early 1900s frequented by artists) at No. 36. Yours, Sibelius."

The 5th Jakov Grot award to the Slavonic Library

On 10 September 2004 the Slavonic Library was honored with the 5th Jakov Grot Enthusiast award by the Helsinki University Unit of the Finnish-Russian Society, which presented the award to Chief Librarian Kai Ekholm and pink roses to the Slavonic Library's staff.

In her speech the Society's Secretary Krista Berglund told the assembled guests about the history and the activities of Slavonic Library: "It is clear from the history of the Slavonic Library that its driving forces are its spirit and enthusiasm. The staff manages the library's collections in a versatile and open-minded way by taking on the toughest challenges, regardless of transitory fashions and the short-sighted perspectives of political correctness."

Customer-oriented thinking

Naturally the achievements of the Slavonic Library cannot be measured financially. A library is not a business; its productivity is of a more permanent order. But even if we begin to measure the Slavonic Library's effectiveness by numbers, it can be proud of the thousands of articles and hundreds of monographs that researchers working in the Slavonic Library have produced. Scientific research of this type is not possible without the Slavonic Library's



Jakov Grot

ease of use and its expert staff, whose assistance has saved countless hours of clients' valuable research time. The Slavonic Library's strength is its customer-oriented thinking; it is a remarkable learning and research center producing core content for research on Russia.

International researchers' contributions to the network

The Slavonic Library's growing international reputation also the homing internationality of the Slavonic Library proves that it is a top class unit; its collections and services attract research workers from all over the world. International researchers' contributions to the Finnish research work are one indicator of the Slavonic Library's productivity. To its credit, many joint projects between Finnish and foreign scholars have been initiated. Internationally renowned lecturers as well as opponents and tutors for dissertations have also contributed to research activities at the University of Helsinki.

The International Association of Friends and Devotees of the Slavonic Library

To promote the Slavonic Library's merits internationally the Helsinki University Unit of the Finland-Russia Society has founded the International Association for the Friends and Promoters of the Slavonic Library. On behalf of the association, Professor Richard Stites from the University of Georgetown, Washington, and Professor Kazuhiko Takahashi from the University of Kobe delivered speeches honoring the Slavonic Library.

Over 100 researchers from all over the world had registered for the event, the results of which will be pub-

lished in *The Slavica Newsletter*, which includes information about the Slavonic Library. Besides this publication, the association's activities include informal gatherings at the Slavonic Library, primarily during the summer.

Maire Aho, Librarian
Tuula Peltonen, Library Assistant
Helsinki University Library
The Slavonic Library

Literary Deed of the Year

On 17 May 2005, The Booksellers' Association of Finland and other professionals in the publishing sector awarded the "Literary Deed of the Year" prize to the Helsinki University Library – The National Library of Finland. The prize was given for the Library's *Adopt a Book* campaign, launched in March of this year, in which the Library invited all those who care about books to support the preservation of culturally priceless literary artifacts for future generations. Private individuals, businesses and associations can take part in the conservation and digitization effort with donations earmarked for the item or items of their choice.

Adopt a Book website:
<http://www.lib.helsinki.fi/pelastakirja>

For further information about
the Adopt a Book project, contact:
Project Manager Kristiina Hildén
kristiina.hilden@helsinki.fi

Project Manager Inkeri Salonharju
inkeri.salonharju@helsinki.fi
Helsinki University Library, tel. +358 (0)9-1911



President Urho Kekkonen's published works on the National Library's website

On 18 April 2005, the Helsinki University Library launched its “Notable Finns” website with a digitized archive of statesman and former President Urho Kekkonen's published works. The website's address is: www.lib.helsinki.fi/merkkihenkilot/ukk

The online material covers Urho Kekkonen's writings during the period 1914–1981, his lifetime literary output, as well as the source publications that were edited between 1997 and 2000 by Ph.D. Ari Uino in connection with his research on Kekkonen. It does not include texts published after the President's death, nor the original manuscripts that are deposited with the Urho Kekkonen Archives in Orimattila. All in all the database contains 4,680 articles, letters and works.

The material freely accessible to all contains Urho Kekkonen's books, speeches, official and personal correspondence as well as writings published under his own name or pseudonyms related to the various roles – influential leader, editor-in-chief, sports leader and statesman – and phases of his career in public life. The service is in Finnish only. Planned next is the realization of online archives for the Finnish statesmen J.W. Snellman and Kalevi Sorsa.

When speaking at the inaugural ceremonies of the importance of the online service to research, Professor Seppo Hentilä stated: “The organizers of the event asked me in my speech to answer the question: ‘Does any other country have a similar digital archives for a statesman of equivalent stature?’ Because I couldn't answer the question directly, I promised to make three spot checks. Using Internet search engines I looked for possible digital archives for three statesmen: Sweden's Prime Minister Tage Erlander, France's President Charles de Gaulle and Great Britain's Prime Minister Winston Churchill. With respect to all three the test results were negative.”



“Naturally there are various types of online documents concerning countless statesmen and politicians in particular, but no one has even come close to attaining such a complete collection as has been achieved for Kekkonen, let alone that such an excellent search mechanism would have been developed for the materials. For that reason I feel justified in claiming that the Urho Kekkonen digital archives now being opened is unique from a global perspective. That being the case, researchers as well as library sector professionals should spread the word when travelling the world and meeting their international colleagues.”

Contact information: hyk-linnea@helsinki.fi

Cooperation Projects

Organisation	Field	Role of Helsinki University Library
Library co-operation and central organisation		
Bibliotheca Baltica	Working Group for libraries with collections of special interest for Area Studies concerning the Baltic Sea Area	board member
CDNL Conference of Directors of National Libraries	An independent association of chief executives of national libraries, established to facilitate discussion and promote understanding and cooperation on matters of common interest to national libraries worldwide.	member
CENL, Conference of European National Librarians	A foundation with the aim of increasing and reinforcing the role of national libraries in Europe, in particular in respect of their responsibilities for maintaining the national cultural heritage and ensuring the accessibility of knowledge in that field. Members of CENL are the national librarians of all Member States of the Council of Europe.	member
CERL, Consortium of European Research Libraries	The organisation's primary objective is to record all books printed in Europe during the hand-press period in a machine-readable database.	FRBR working group, member
Cobra +	Computerised Bibliographic Record Actions	partner
IFLA, The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions	The leading international body representing the interests of library and information services and their users.	active in several sections
LIBER, Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche	Represents and promotes the interests of research libraries in Europe	board member
MINERVA/MINERVA Plus	Ministerial Network for Valorising Activities in Digitisation	partner
NORON	Directors of the Nordic State and National Libraries	member
The European Library	The European Library webservice is a portal which offers access to the combined resources (both digital and non-digital) of the 43 national libraries of Europe.	full participant • Management group, member • Technical working group, member
Other Library branch organisations		
ELAG	European Library Automation Group	member
Elsevier Library Advisory Board	Board of librarians who provide input and feedback regarding Elsevier products, business concepts, marketing and corporate strategy	board member
Endeavor Users Groups	Users of library systems supplied by Endeavor Informations Inc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endeavor Users Group enhancement committee, member • European Endeavor Users Group, steering committee member • European Endeavor Users Group, active in working groups • National Libraries Endeavor Advisory Board, member • European Endeavor Libraries Advisory Board, member

Ex Libris Strategy Group	The group consists of experts in the field of library systems and standards	member
European ICOLC, International Coalition of Library Consortia	The Coalition is an informal, self-organized group comprising nearly 150 library consortia from around the world.	programme group, member
IAML International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres	The membership comprises major music collections, music and audio-visual librarians, music archivists and documentation specialists, musicologists, music publishers and dealers.	member
IASA, The International Association of Sound and Audiovisual Archives	Functions as a medium for international co-operation between archives that preserve recorded sound and audiovisual documents.	member
Nature Publishing Group, Library Committee	Board of librarians who provide feedback to NPG	board member
Standardisation		
Dublin Core Metadata Initiative	An open forum engaged in the development of interoperable online metadata standards that support a broad range of purposes and business models	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dublin Core Advisor Committee, member • Dublin Core Board of Trustees, member
ISBN, International Standard Book Number	International identification system for each product form or edition of a monographic publication in publishing, distribution and library practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member in the working group for the revision of the ISBN standard and the ISBN manual • ISBN Panel meeting for the delegates of ISBN agencies
ISSN The International Standard Serial Number	ISSN is managed by a world wide network of 77 National Centres coordinated by an International Centre based in Paris.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISSN Governing Board • ISSN, Meeting of Directors of ISSN Centres
ISO	International Organization for Standardization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISO 639 Language Code Joint Advisory Committee (JAC), member • ISO 2789 Information and documentation - International library statistics, member • ISO 9707 Information and documentation - Statistics on the production and distribution of books, newspapers, periodicals and electronic publications, P-member • ISO 11620 Information and documentation - Library performance indicators, member
NISO	US National Information Standards Organization	the first non-American affiliate

Facts and Statistics 2004

- visitors 335,087 (2003: 80,728)
- local loans 520,500
- interlibrary loans to other libraries 4,290 and from other libraries 1,760
- the number of information service requests was 5,535, guidance in information retrieval was given to 863 persons and the number of visitors was 1,812
- accession of collections approx. 850 meters of shelving, at the end of the year the collection totaled 104,900 meters of shelving
- accession of the National Collection 104,300 units, of those 74,600 uncatalogued publications
- accession of monographs and series in other collections 11,600 volumes
- the sound recording collection grew by 5,300 legal deposit copies and purchases, the sheet music collection by 457 publications
- collections totaling over 2.9 million books and serials, 610,800 microfilms and microfiches, and over 2.8 million units of other items
- the number of digitized printed products' pages was over 300,000 items, number of books microfilmed totaled 1,800 microfiches, number of conserved small printings and manuscripts was 11,000 units
- the databases of the Library's own collections contain over 1.5 million references, a growth of 44,400
- the National Bibliography database FENNICA contains 758,041 bibliographic entries, the National Discography database VIOLA contains 631,299 discographer entries
- the Union Catalogue of the Finnish research libraries (LINDA) contains 4.5 million references
- the addition to the Web Archive was 4.6 million files
- staff: 201 full-time employees
- the Library has 4 service points, 2 in Helsinki, 1 in Mikkeli and 1 in Urajärvi
- the Library is responsible for two international consortiums

Loan services

Main Library and Slavonic Library

	2002	2003	2004
Local loans	481 800	520 100	520 500
Interlibrary services	5 000	4 000	5 050
Total	486 800	560 100	525 550

Databases of the Library's own collections, number of titles

	2002	2003	2004
National Collection Fennica	715 000	734 400	758 041
Other collections	754 800	764 600	788 400

Premises and Employees 2004

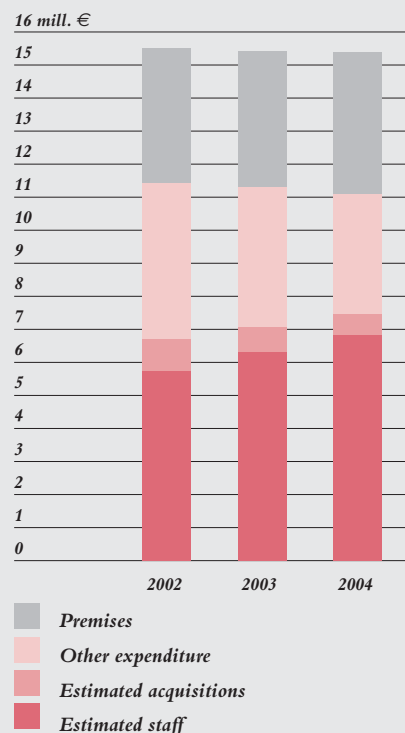
Premises

Total	25 500 m ²
User service areas	4 600 m ²
Collection areas	19 600 m ²
Other areas	700 m ²

Employees

201 permanent staff

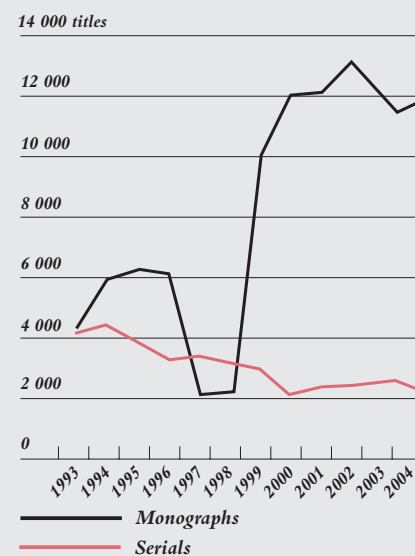
Structure of Expenditures



Acquisitions



Purchased acquisitions



New publications and products of the Helsinki University Library



THE CUPOLA HALL -SET

Design: *Kirsti Doukas*, KALEVALA JEWELLERY

The jewellery set is exclusively designed for the National Library of Finland and it captures in miniature the architectural idea of the library building.

Pendant, earrings, tiepin and cufflinks.



PRINTED IN THE MEMORY.

Literary Treasures in the National Library of Finland.

Publications of the Helsinki University Library 75 (HYKJ 75).

Editors: *Leena Pärssinen* and *Esko Rahikainen*

English translation: *Malcolm Hicks*

Graphic design: *Markku Reunanen*

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AARTEET. Skatter. Treasures.

Exhibition catalogue

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Editor: *Inkeri Pitkäranta*

ISBN 952-10-2352-X, ISSN 1459-0735



Ajatuksen kulku, suomalaiset filosofit maailmalla – maailman filosofit Suomessa.

Trains of thought, finnish philosophers in the world - the world's philosophers in Finland.

National Library Gallery publications 6. Helsinki 2004.

Editor: *Inkeri Pitkäranta*

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The web bookshop of the Helsinki University Library is accessible at

www.lib.helsinki.fi/english/infoe/bookshop.htm

Orders direct to the web bookshop or the publication sales office:

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P.O.Box 15

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Tel +358 9 191 22671

Fax: +358 9 191 22581

E-mail: hyk-julkaisumyynti@helsinki.fi

Also on sale at Helsinki University Library.

Unioninkatu 36, 00170 Helsinki

Printed in the Memory

Printed in the Memory – Literary Treasures in the National Library of Finland is a mammoth work published by Helsinki University Library on its collections and the background to them. Edited by Leena Pärssinen and Esko Rahikainen, it contains fascinating articles by the finest academic experts on early works in their fields, articles that serve in an intelligible manner to open up deep perspectives on knowledge and research and to reveal the international roots and connections of our national culture. In an age when electronic databases seem to be overshadowing the valuable treasury to be found in printed books, this volume takes on a quite vital importance. The classical format, designed by Markku Reunanen, lends elegant support to its weighty contents.

Professor Riitta Nikula,
at the National Art Book Days,
Iittala, 11th June, 2005.



IFLA Satellite Meetings in Finland

During 11–12 August 2005, two prestigious international events – Satellite Meetings held in connection with the IFLA World Library and Information Congress now taking place – will be arranged in Finland. The Finnish Library Association is the main Finnish organizer. The National Library of Finland has actively participated in the preparations. Both conferences will be held at the Järvenpää House.

Bibliotheca Universalis - How to Organize Chaos will focus on the exploitation of the Internet's linkage attributes in the development of library catalogues.

The Physical Library and Beyond Library as Place and the Library in Cyberspace will consider the integration of digital and physical services.

www.ifla.org



Helsinki University Library

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The Brazilian grasshopper
(*Acridium tarsatum*) is a
beautiful straight-winged
insect whose "antennas"
provide an excellent analogy
for the Library's and
Information Society's mobile
services. An illustration from
the work Printed in the
Memory – Literary Treasures
in the National Library of
Finland. Toussaint de
Charpentier: *Ortophthera
descripta et depicta*. Lipsiae
1841–1845

*An intelligence that is not
humane is the most
dangerous thing in the
world.*

Ashley Montagu

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